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General Assembly
Sixty-first session
Agenda items 11, 17, 27, 66 and 108 (o)

Prevention of armed conflict

The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan

Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

Right of peoples to self-determination

Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

Security Council
Sixty-first year

Letter dated 22 December 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I am writing with reference to three letters (A/61/627-S/2006/966, A/61/628-S/2006/967 and A/61/629-S/2006/968) submitted by Azerbaijan on the constitutional referendum conducted on 10 December 2006 in Nagorno Karabagh.

In the situation of no-war-no-peace that has prevailed for over 15 years now, the people and authorities of Nagorno Karabagh, to their credit, have managed to build an effective governance system, lay down foundations for political institutions, develop legislation in accordance with international standards, appoint their authorities at all levels through elections and adhere to international humanitarian law. The people of Nagorno Karabagh have demonstrated their unswerving ability to rule themselves, to protect their territory and freedom and to meet their international commitments, such as upholding the ceasefire. In their continuous efforts to build a democratic society, they have recognized the need for a basic legal framework, and have adopted the internationally recognized practice of holding a referendum as the only acceptable way to achieve collective decision-making in any society based on the rule of law.

Thus holding the referendum was a necessary and overdue step to establish a basic legal framework for the normal functioning of society. It shall in no way be interpreted as a referendum on a status-related issue, which is the core element of

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the negotiations within the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Minsk Group.

The rejection of the democratic aspirations of the people of Nagorno Karabagh as an obstruction to the peace process is misguided and counterproductive. The adoption of proper legislation and basic laws, such as a constitution, is a prerequisite for the lawful existence of any society, regardless of its current status.

What really obstructs the peace process is Azerbaijan's avoidance of direct negotiations with the authorities of Nagorno Karabagh, its recurring belligerent calls and persistent efforts to sidetrack the Minsk Group negotiation process.

The Republic of Armenia remains strongly committed to the Nagorno Karabagh peace process within the OSCE Minsk Group, which is the only proper framework for the resolution of the Nagorno Karabagh conflict, and will respect all the agreements reached in that process.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the sixty-first session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 11, 17, 27, 66 and 108 (o), and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Armen **Martirosyan**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

United Nations A/61/679

General Assembly

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Sixty-first session
Agenda item 132
Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

Performance report on the budget of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006 and implementation of the strategic deployment stocks, including the award of contracts for procurement

Report of the Secretary-General

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Summary

The present report contains the performance report on the budget of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006.

The total expenditure for the Logistics Base for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006 has been linked to the objective of the Base through a results-based framework under a support component.

Performance of the United Nations Logistics Base financial resources

(Thousands of United States dollars. Budget year is from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006.)

Category	*Apportionment*	*Expenditure*	*Variance*	
			Amount	*Percentage*
Civilian personnel	14 697.4	11 931.0	2 766.4	18.8
Operational costs	16 815.7	15 596.4	1 219.3	7.3
Gross requirements	**31 513.1**	**27 527.4**	**3 985.7**	**12.6**
Staff assessment income	2 233.1	1 849.1	384.0	17.2
Net requirements	**29 280.0**	**25 678.3**	**3 601.7**	**12.3**
Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted)	—	—	—	—
Total requirements	**31 513.1**	**27 527.4**	**3 985.7**	**12.6**

Human resources incumbency performance

Category	*Approved*[a]	*Actual (average)*	*Vacancy rate (percentage)*
International staff	37	35	5.4
National staff	165	127	23.0

[a] Represents the highest level of authorized strength.

The present report also contains, as recommended by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/58/759/Add.9, para. 26) and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 58/297, a report on implementation of the strategic deployment stocks and a summary of the award of procurement contracts for strategic deployment stocks for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006.

Performance of strategic deployment stocks

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	*Issued*	*Replenishment (Expenditure)*
Strategic deployment stocks	30 625.6	47 831.1

The actions to be taken by the General Assembly regarding the Logistics Base and strategic deployment stocks are set out in section VI of the present report.

I. Introduction

1. The budget for the maintenance of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006 was set out in the report of the Secretary-General of 3 February 2005 (A/59/691) and amounted to $37,691,900 gross ($35,338,200 net). It provided for 42 international staff and 167 national staff. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions recommended that the General Assembly appropriate $31,513,100 gross for the period (A/59/736/Add.2, para. 43).

2. The General Assembly, by its resolution 59/299, appropriated an amount of $31,513,100 gross ($29,280,000 net) for the maintenance of the Logistics Base for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006. The approved budget provided for 37 international and 165 national staff. The total amount has been assessed on Member States.

3. The General Assembly, in its resolution 56/292, endorsed the concept and implementation of the strategic deployment stocks, set out in the report of the Secretary-General (A/56/870), for one complex mission and approved $141,546,000 for that purpose. In its resolution 57/315 the Assembly extended the validity of the approved resources to 30 June 2004. Furthermore, the Assembly, in its resolution 59/299, approved the use of savings derived from the liquidation of prior-period obligations and the unspent balance of the strategic deployment stocks to cover losses on currency exchange and the replenishment of stocks. In the same resolution, the Assembly also approved the inclusion of the strategic deployment stocks replenishment within the commitment authority described in section IV, paragraph 1, of its resolution 49/233 A. Outstanding contributions from Member States for strategic deployment stocks amounted to $13.6 million as at 30 November 2006. Of that amount, $13.5 million (99 per cent) is related to the special assessed contribution of one Member State.

II. Objective and results

4. The original storage facility for the Department of Peacekeeping Operations was the United Nations Supply Depot, first located in Naples, Italy, and later moved to Pisa. The supply depot was first established to receive assets available upon the closure of the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF 1) in 1956. The United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi has been in operation since late 1994 under a rent-free arrangement with the Government of Italy. The memorandum of understanding regarding the use of the facilities at Brindisi was signed by the Secretary-General and Italy on 23 November 1994 and amended on 7 December 2001.

5. The objective of the Logistics Base, as for the support account, is to ensure efficient and effective peacekeeping operations.

6. Within this overall objective, the Logistics Base has during the performance report period contributed to one expected accomplishment by delivering related key outputs. As shown in the framework below, these outputs have been grouped under four subheadings — strategic deployment stocks and United Nations reserve stocks management, communications hub and information technology network operations, training services and management and administration of the Logistics Base.

7. The present report assesses actual performance of the Logistics Base against the planned results-based framework set out in the 2005/06 budget. In particular, the performance report compares the actual indicators of achievement, that is, the extent to which actual progress has been made during the period against the expected accomplishment, with the planned indicators of achievement and compares the completed outputs with the planned outputs. This includes the actual performance of the Logistics Base in terms of its responsibilities for the implementation and management of the strategic deployment stocks, as defined in the report of the Secretary-General (A/56/870, para. 14).

Component: support

Expected accomplishment 1.1: Increased efficiency and effectiveness of peacekeeping operations

Planned indicators of achievement	*Actual indicators of achievement*
Deployment of equipment in the amount of $130 million from strategic deployment stocks for one complex new mission within 90 days from mandate	The Security Council did not mandate any new missions in 2005/06, hence, strategic deployment stock-related items were issued to existing missions and other United Nations agencies in the amount of $30.6 million
	Receipt and inspection time for strategic deployment stock items reduced from average of 34 days in 2004/05 to 26 days in 2005/06
	Shipment processing time from the receipt of a materiel release order to dispatch for strategic deployment stock items reduced from average of 37 days (excluding cargo consolidation delay) in 2004/05 to 28 days in 2005/06
Improved availability of worldwide communications and information technology networks for peacekeeping operations to 99.7 per cent from 99.6 per cent in 2004/05	Achieved and exceeded for 82 per cent of the links (69 out of 84); for the remaining 15 links, availability ranged from 93.33 to 99.99 per cent owing to technical factors such as heavy storms or power failures at the Logistics Base and remote stations

Planned outputs	*Completed (number or yes/no)*	*Remarks*
Strategic deployment stocks and United Nations reserve stocks management		
Receipt, inspection, issuance/rotation of strategic deployment stocks equipment valuing approximately $260 million equivalent to requirements for one complex mission	No	Strategic deployment stock items valued at $30.6 million issued, including rotation
		All incoming strategic deployment stock items managed through the Logistics Base (including vehicles, generators, prefabricated buildings and associated equipment, communications and information technology equipment, spare parts and expendables) received and inspected
		A total of $18.8 million in other stocks, comprising $4.2 million of United Nations reserve stocks and $14.6 million of Department of Peacekeeping Operations trans-shipments, received, inspected and issued

Storage and maintenance of strategic deployment stock equipment, including, on average (based on one third of stocks), 396 vehicles, 126 generators, 294 prefabricated buildings and associated equipment, spare parts and expandable stores to warranty standards	410	Vehicles on average stored and maintained
	478	Generators on average stored and maintained
	534	Prefabricated buildings on average stored
Refurbishment of 100 vehicles, 18 generators and 24 air-conditioning units for inclusion in the United Nations reserve stocks	63	Vehicles
	9	Generators
	8	Air-conditioning units
		Lower numbers reflect the number of vehicles and equipment received from the downsizing missions to be refurbished and included in United Nations reserve stocks
Implementation of system integration for 1 rapid-deployment telesystem (for a complex mission) and 9 mobile deployable telesystems	1	Rapid deployment telecommunications system integrated
	7	Mobile deployable communications systems integrated, 2 deployed to United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq and 2 to United Nations Mission in the Sudan
		2 container broadcasting studios integrated and deployed to United Nations Mission in the Sudan
Conduct of one disposal sale in the year comprising mainly United Nations reserve stocks	No	The disposal sale was not carried out because the amount of authorized written-off property did not reach a purchase order value of $5.0 million, which is considered cost-efficient for organizing a sale
Provision of ground support to 84 aircraft movements through the Logistics Base	20	Comprises movements in support of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, including strategic deployment stocks and United Nations reserve stock shipments (excluding 90 aircraft movements in support of the World Food Programme and 12 for Pakistan earthquake relief that had been included in the planned output)
Communications hub and information technology network operations		
Maintenance of worldwide communications and information technology networks for peacekeeping missions and Headquarters, including 90 satellite links for provision of worldwide voice, video and data network	Yes	Including maintenance of 145 (130 satellite and 15 leased lines) communications and information technology links
Handling of 22,000 mission communications and information technology help-desk calls	29 000	Comprising 23,000 mission support calls for application and network services and 6,000 local Logistics Base help desk support e-mails and calls

		Higher number owing to a short-term surge during implementation of new procurement system (Mercury) in the field
Weekly back-up of 100 per cent of United Nations Headquarters and peacekeeping mission critical databases	Yes	
Training services		
Administration of 100 training courses, seminars and pre-deployment briefings	158	Training courses, including 4 pre-deployment courses (72 participants) for a total of 1,554 participants
		Higher number due to Department of Peacekeeping Operations initiatives to organize training increasingly at the Logistics Base training centre
Development of training modules and delivery of eight specialized courses, consisting of four on core skills, two on team-building, one on peacekeeping planning and management and one on senior leadership induction for a total of 240 participants	No	The approved 2005/06 budget did not include provisions for the training delivery cell that was planned to carry out this output
Management and administration of the Logistics Base		
Administration of an average number of 42 international and 167 national staff	35	International staff
	127	National staff
		Lower numbers are due partly to the fact that the proposed posts for the training delivery cell were not included in the approved 2005/06 budget; the lower number for national staff is also due to delayed recruitment of the 64 national staff included into 2005/06 approved budget to replace individual contractors performing core functions at the Logistics Base
Maintenance and provision of building management services for 49 buildings (41,657 m^2), 25 soft-walled shelters (12,407 m^2) and 237,280 m^2 of open area, including 86,280 m^2 of storage areas and 91,100 m^2 of roads and parking areas	49	Buildings
	26	Soft-walled shelters
	86 280	Square metres, open storage areas
	91 100	Square metres, roads and parking areas
Maintenance and operation of Logistics Base vehicle fleet of 118, consisting of light, medium and heavy forklifts, trucks, trailers, sedans and delivery vans	118	Vehicles maintained, with a vehicle off-road rate of 0.9 per cent

San Vito refurbishment plan		
Completion of phase 1 (non-recurrent costs of $5,123,680) of the three-phase refurbishment plan (total non-recurrent costs of $8,854,680), including completion of 30,000 m^2 of hard-standing and associated infrastructure at San Vito to replace San Pancrazio strategic deployment stocks vehicle storage, completion of phase 1 refurbishment of three buildings for future communications and information technology services hub at San Vito and acquisition of information technology equipment	No	The approved 2005/06 budget did not include provisions for the San Vito project

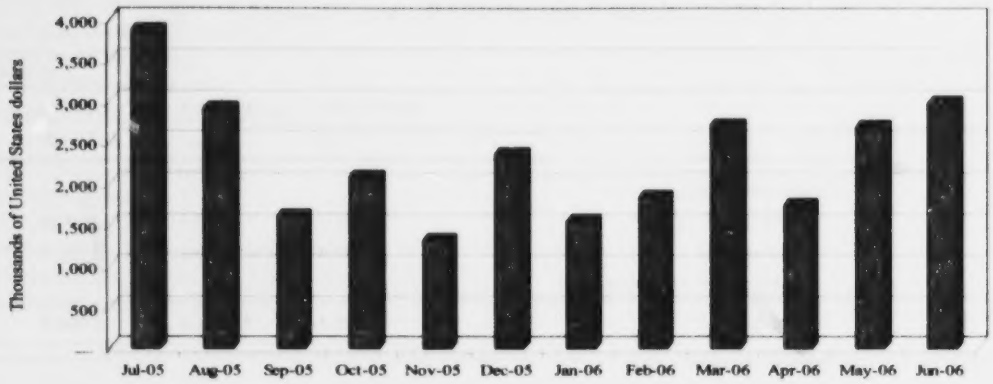
III. Resource performance: United Nations Logistics Base

A. Financial resources

(Thousands of United States dollars. Budget year is from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006.)

			Variance	
	Apportionment	*Expenditure*	*Amount*	*Percentage*
Category	*(1)*	*(2)*	*(3)=(1)-(2)*	*(4)=(3)÷(1)*
Civilian personnel				
International staff	4 705.0	4 800.9	(95.9)	(2.0)
National staff	9 992.4	7 130.1	2 862.3	28.6
United Nations Volunteers	—	—	—	—
Subtotal	**14 697.4**	**11 931.0**	**2 766.4**	**18.8**
Operational costs				
General temporary assistance	—	96.7	(96.7)	—
Government-provided personnel	—	—	—	—
Civilian electoral observers	—	—	—	—
Consultants	286.0	219.2	66.8	23.4
Official travel	220.0	228.4	(8.4)	(3.8)
Facilities and infrastructure	4 736.5	4 107.4	629.1	13.3
Ground transportation	1 482.1	1 522.0	(39.9)	(2.7)
Air transportation	—	—	—	—
Naval transportation	—	—	—	—
Communications	4 410.2	4 222.1	188.1	4.3
Information technology	3 856.7	3 636.3	220.4	5.7
Medical	280.0	255.2	24.8	8.9
Special equipment	—	—	—	—
Other supplies, services and equipment	1 544.2	1 309.1	235.1	15.2
Quick-impact projects	—	—	—	—
Subtotal	**16 815.7**	**15 596.4**	**1 219.3**	**7.3**
Gross requirements	**31 513.1**	**27 527.4**	**3 985.7**	**12.6**
Staff assessment income	2 233.1	1 849.1	384.0	17.2
Net requirements	**29 280.0**	**25 678.3**	**3 601.7**	**12.3**
Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted)	—	—	—	—
Total requirements	**31 513.1**	**27 527.4**	**3 985.7**	**12.6**

B. Monthly expenditure patterns



8. Higher expenditures in July 2005 were attributable to the recording in the UNLB special account of obligations for maintenance and service contracts.

C. Other income and adjustments

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	*Amount*
Interest income	1 419.4
Other/miscellaneous income	216.0
Voluntary contributions in cash	—
Prior-period adjustments	—
Savings on or cancellation of prior-period obligations	744.7
Total	**2 380.1**

D. Value of non-budgeted contributions

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	*Actual value*
Memorandum of understanding[a]	2 031.7
Voluntary contributions in kind (non-budgeted)	—
Total	**2 031.7**

[a] Inclusive of office buildings and workshop structures from the Government of Italy.

IV. Analysis of variances[1]

	Variance	
National staff	$2 862.3	28.6%

9. The reduced requirements are due mainly to the delayed recruitment of the 64 national staff, included in the 2005/06 approved budget to convert individual contractors performing core functions at the Logistics Base. The delayed recruitment is reflected in a higher than expected average vacancy rate of 23.0 per cent, ranging from 42.4 per cent in July 2005 to 4.8 per cent in June 2006. The initial cost estimates for 2005/06 were inclusive of a 2.0 per cent vacancy rate.

	Variance	
General temporary assistance	($96.7)	—

10. The increased requirements are due to the fact that the approved 2005/06 budget inadvertently did not include any provisions for general temporary assistance to cover sick leave and maternity leave.

	Variance	
Consultants	$66.8	23.4%

11. The reduced requirements are due mainly to the cancellation of the second phase of a storm-water drainage project, which resulted in reduced requirements for engineering consultants, as a result of an alternative solution proposed by the City of Brindisi in 2004/05. The savings are also attributable to lower requirements for training consultants owing in particular to the cancellation of personnel-related training.

	Variance	
Facilities and infrastructure	$629.1	13.3%

12. The reduced requirements are attributable to the delayed installation of equipment and migration of data for the Logistics Base Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity Centre, resulting in lower requirements for utilities. The savings are also due to the fact that the San Pancrazio depot, a storage facility for strategic deployment stock vehicles, was not utilized during the financial period owing to the relatively low level of strategic deployment stocks. The provision made for security services for the depot ($299,700) were thus not needed.

	Variance	
Communications	$188.1	4.3%

13. The savings are due mainly to a more favourable communications support services contract as a result of rebidding.

[1] Resource variance amounts are expressed in thousands of United States dollars. Analysis is provided for variances of at least plus or minus 5 per cent and $100,000.

	Variance	
Information technology	$220.4	5.7%

14. The savings are due mainly to a more favourable information technology services contract as a result of rebidding.

	Variance	
Medical	$24.8	8.9%

15. The savings are attributable mainly to lower than anticipated storage costs for the influenza pandemic personal protection kit stockpile for the Logistics Base. These savings are partly offset by the purchase of medical consumables for the start-up of a medical clinic at the Base.

	Variance	
Other supplies, services and equipment	$235.1	15.2%

16. The savings are attributable mainly to a delay in the implementation of the logistics support services contract for the Logistics Base that was established to replace the use of individual contractors carrying out non-core functions at the Base. The lower requirements are also attributable to the delayed implementation of a new strategic deployment stocks insurance policy for more comprehensive insurance coverage that was pending assessment of the most suitable and cost-efficient way to insure the holdings. The savings were partly offset by unbudgeted requirements for loss on exchange ($319,000) due to the appreciation of the euro against the United States dollar.

V. Resource performance: strategic deployment stocks

A. Financial resources

17. The total value of strategic deployment stock activities, as per the financial statements for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006, amounts to $70.0 million and includes $39.1 million rolled over from the prior-period fund balance, $30.6 million corresponding to strategic deployment stocks issued to missions (as shown in the table below) and $0.3 million for miscellaneous income.

Value of strategic deployment stocks issued to missions from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Receiving operation	*Amount*
United Nations Mission in the Sudan	20 776.3
United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti	2 764.1
United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq	2 714.1
United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo	1 746.1
United Nations Mission in Liberia	1 385.9
6 other operations[a]	1 239.1
Total	**30 625.6**

[a] United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire, Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the future status process of Kosovo, Office of the Personal Representative of the Secretary-General for Lebanon, United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon, United Nations Office in Timor-Leste, and United Nations Operation in Burundi.

18. The strategic deployment stock replenishment expenditure, related to the total volume of $70.0 million referred to in paragraph 17 above, from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006 totalled $47.8 million, as shown in the table below.

Strategic deployment stock replenishment expenditure by category from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	*Amount*
Facilities and infrastructure	8 667.6
Ground transportation	25 199.2
Communications	7 922.7
Information technology	3 019.4
Medical	47.0
Miscellaneous supplies and services	2 975.2
Total	**47 831.1**

19. As at 30 June 2006, savings and unspent balances from the amount of $141.5 million provided to establish the strategic deployment stocks amounted to $0.4 million. These savings will be used to cover losses in currency exchange and the replenishment of stocks, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 59/299.

B. Procurement summary

20. During the financial year 2005/06, purchase orders with a total value of $47.3 million were awarded for replenishment of the strategic deployment stocks (see annex I). The total value of $47.3 million recorded in the procurement system differs by 1.0 per cent from the replenishment expenditure of $47.8 million recorded in the financial system owing to exchange rate fluctuations that were not captured in the procurement system.

21. In addition, purchase orders were issued for freight forwarding and insurance services associated with the stock shipments for a total amount of $1.5 million (see annex II).

22. The total of $48.8 million for purchase orders awarded includes orders issued against systems contracts in place for telecommunications and information technology equipment, generators, prefabricated buildings and engineering and transportation equipment.

VI. Actions to be taken by the General Assembly

23. The actions to be taken by the General Assembly in connection with the financing of the Logistics Base are:

(a) To decide that Member States shall waive their respective shares in other income for the period ended 30 June 2006 amounting to $2,380,100 and their respective shares in the amount of $239,400 from the unencumbered balance of $3,985,700 for the period ended 30 June 2006, to be applied to meeting the current and future after-service health insurance liabilities of the United Nations;

(b) To decide on the treatment of the remaining unencumbered balance of $3,746,300 for the period ended 30 June 2006.

24. The action to be taken by the General Assembly in connection with the strategic deployment stocks is to take note of the present report.

Annex I

Strategic deployment stocks procurement summary

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Contract	*Amount*
Austria	1 876.6
Motor vehicles and parts and accessories therefor	
Belgium	176.3
Testing equipment	
Telecommunications equipment	
Canada	114.8
Prefabricated buildings	
China	37.7
Domestic appliances other than cooling and heating equipment	
Czech Republic	1 484.6
Motor vehicles and parts and accessories therefor	
Denmark	2 284.1
Aerials and antennae	
Air-conditioning, cold chain and refrigerating equipment	
Alternative energy systems; steam, hydraulic and gas turbines	
Angles, shapes and sections, of iron or non-alloy steel	
Electric motors, generators and transformers, parts therefor	
Electricity distribution or control apparatus, parts and accessories therefor	
Microcomputers	
Printing and plotting devices for electronic data-processing equipment	
Protection devices for electronic data-processing equipment	
Radio broadcast and television receivers	
Storage units and storage media for electronic data processing	
Telecommunications equipment	
Telephonic apparatus	
Finland	516.2
Equipment and accessories for connecting electronic data-processing equipment to networks	
Software, computers, including manuals	
France	5 069.4
Clothing, textile materials	
Motor vehicles and parts and accessories therefor	
Prefabricated buildings	
Germany	1 749.0
Articles for medical or surgical purposes	
Decanting, distilling, evaporating, extracting, filtering equipment, etc.	
Motor vehicles and parts and accessories therefor	

Contract	*Amount*
India	1 780.5
Electric motors, generators, etc.	
Optical input/output units, such as scanners, optical readers, etc.	
Stoppers, caps, lids and other metal packing accessories; wire and wire products	
Storage units and storage media for electronic data processing	
Telecommunications equipment	
Testing equipment	
Transmitting and communicating equipment for electronic data processing, e.g. modems, personal computer servers, etc.	
Ireland	21.3
Software, computers, including manuals	
Israel	751.2
Crowd-control equipment	
Decanting, distilling, evaporating, extracting, filtering equipment, etc.	
Motor vehicle parts and accessories	
Printing and plotting devices for electronic data-processing equipment	
Security and safety equipment	
Italy	7 119.0
Air-conditioning, cold chain and refrigerating equipment	
Calculating machines and similar calculating devices	
Furniture	
Hand tools	
Industrial catering equipment	
Lighting equipment	
Prefabricated buildings	
Primary cells and primary batteries	
Stationery articles	
Telecommunications equipment	
Telephonic apparatus	
Trailers and semi-trailers; containers	
Japan	8 916.4
Motor vehicles and parts and accessories therefor	
Monaco	229.6
Prefabricated buildings	
Netherlands	666.7
Camping equipment	
Furniture	
Input/output units for electronic data processing, accessories and parts therefor	
Microphones, loudspeakers, headphones, earphones, amplifiers	
Prefabricated buildings	
Satellite communication systems	

Contract	*Amount*
Telecommunications equipment	
Republic of Korea	1 098.2
Prefabricated buildings	
Singapore	42.3
Machinery, special-purpose equipment, other	
South Africa	59.0
Clothing, textile materials	
Sweden	476.8
Telecommunications equipment	
Switzerland	819.2
Motor vehicles and parts and accessories therefor	
Turkey	172.4
Prefabricated buildings	
United Arab Emirates	165.9
Domestic appliances other than cooling and heating equipment	
Domestic cooling and heating equipment	
Security and safety equipment	
Storage	
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2 828.6
Aerials and antennae	
Clothing, textile materials	
Crowd-control equipment	
Floor coverings, plastic	
Lighting equipment	
Microphones, loudspeakers, headphones, earphones, amplifiers	
Motor vehicles and parts and accessories therefor	
Optical instruments; other measuring equipment	
Plastic articles	
Primary cells and primary batteries	
Radio broadcast and television receivers	
Security and safety equipment	
Telecommunications equipment	
Testing equipment	
Training and demonstrational models, other articles	
Wood for joinery and carpentry, other	
United States of America	8 824.3
Aerials and antennae	
Articles for medical or surgical purposes	
Buildings prefabricated for office, school, home or warehouse	
Clocks	

Contract	*Amount*
Clothing, textile materials	
Containers for compressed or liquefied gas or atomic energy purposes	
Electronic data-processing equipment/machinery, other, and parts therefor	
Equipment and accessories for connecting electronic data-processing equipment to networks	
Furniture	
Hydrographic, hydrological, metrological or geophysical instruments	
Inter-office communication systems	
Lighting equipment	
Measuring, checking and testing appliances	
Microcomputers	
Minicomputers	
Mortuary supplies	
Motor vehicles and parts and accessories therefor	
Plastic articles	
Prefabricated buildings	
Printing and plotting devices for electronic data-processing equipment	
Protection devices for electronic data-processing equipment	
Radar apparatus, radio navigational aid apparatus, parts therefor	
Recording and reproducing apparatus for sound and video	
Satellite communication systems	
Security and safety equipment	
Telecommunications equipment	
Trailers and semi-trailers; containers	
Total	**47 280.1**

Annex II

Strategic deployment stocks freight forwarding and insurance costs

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Contract	*Amount*
Denmark	145.3
Freight forwarding	
France	188.0
Freight forwarding	
Italy	62.9
Freight forwarding	
Japan	669.2
Freight forwarding	
United States of America	
Freight forwarding	353.9
Insurance	53.2
Total	**1 472.5**

United Nations A/61/680

General Assembly

Distr.: General
26 December 2006

Original: English

Sixty-first session
Agenda item 39
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Letter dated 15 December 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

I have the honour to transmit to you the explanation of vote of Brazil regarding the question of Western Sahara, under item 39 of the agenda of the General Assembly, on which the plenary took action on 14 December (see annex).

According to decision 34/401, paragraph 7 (annex VI to the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly), delegations that have made an explanation of vote in the Committee should not repeat it in the plenary. However, in view of the fact that the contents of Brazil's earlier explanation of vote has been altered to include new elements, I wish to request that you circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the General Assembly.

(*Signed*) Ronaldo Mota **Sardenberg**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations

06-68345 (E) 100107

Annex to the letter dated 15 December 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

Brazil has abstained on the draft resolution regarding the question of Western Sahara. It regrets the lack of consensus on the text of the draft resolution, after decades of debate and consultations in the United Nations. Brazil understands that resorting to a vote does not reflect the spirit that must guide the peace process and does not contribute to the achievement of a mutually acceptable solution to the question of Western Sahara.

Brazil reaffirms its commitment to the process of decolonization, of which the question of Western Sahara is an unresolved and protracted issue. It is necessary to reaffirm the full validity of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and all related resolutions to regulate the question of Western Sahara, in order to ensure that the Saharawi people exercise their right to self-determination. Developments that have occurred in the area over the years have not changed the status of the question of Western Sahara as an item of decolonization.

Though we recognize that self-determination can be expressed in various forms in different contexts, Brazil believes the core principle of the right to self-determination must be the guiding element in any deliberation on this issue.

Brazil reiterates its support for the peace plan, as recognized by Security Council resolutions 1495 (2003) and 1541 (2004). Brazil acknowledges the responsibility of the United Nations towards the people of Western Sahara; supports the efforts of the Secretary-General and his role in the peace process; supports the principle of right to self-determination of the Saharawi people; and wishes that a solution that is mutually acceptable for the parties will be achieved.

A lasting and peaceful solution of the question of Western Sahara demands an immediate resumption of negotiations between the parties, with the political will necessary to find a mutually acceptable solution. The United Nations also bears a significant responsibility in supporting the settlement of the issue, which falls within its competencies as defined in the Charter.

Brazil wishes to underline the important role to be played by the Secretary-General, as an initiator of proposals to encourage negotiations — as reaffirmed in his recent report on the subject dated 16 October 2006 (S/2006/817). Brazil trusts that the Secretary-General will enhance his efforts to promote a final settlement for the dispute, in accordance with the legal framework established to deal with cases of self-determination, and the question of Western Sahara in particular.

Brazil's abstention should be interpreted as a vote of confidence in the future of the peace process, which we believe should be carried on in a manner that produces positive results.

United Nations A/61/681–S/2006/1029

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
26 December 2006

Original: English

General Assembly
Sixty-first session
Agenda items 13 and 14

The situation in the Middle East

Question of Palestine

Security Council
Sixty-first year

Identical letters dated 25 December 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I write to inform you of the highly disturbing number of Qassam rockets launched by Palestinian terrorists in the Gaza Strip since the ceasefire went into effect last month. These persisting Palestinian terror attacks not only violate the agreed upon ceasefire, but also place the entire region in alarming and growing danger.

Since the morning of Sunday, 26 November 2006, when the ceasefire agreed upon by Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas in the Gaza Strip commenced, until yesterday, Monday, 25 December 2006, 53 Qassam rockets have been fired by Palestinian terrorists at Israel. In the past few weeks alone, 24 rockets were fired, 10 of which landed in Israel. Over the last few weeks, many more Qassam rockets landed in Israel, particularly in the southern town of Sderot, causing injury and trauma to civilians and extensive damage to infrastructure and private property. The barrage of falling rockets gravely disrupts daily life in Sderot and other area communities.

The continuation of Palestinian terror is an outright act of provocation, threatening the viability of sustainable peace and security in our region. The Palestinians must adhere to the agreed upon principles of the ceasefire, and spare no effort to put an end to the violence and terror against Israel.

No country in the world would stand idly by as its citizens were viciously attacked by unceasing terrorism. Israel has exercised tremendous self-restraint in its response to these violations of the ceasefire and assaults on its sovereignty, people, and territory. But Israel has the right to defend itself and its people, as cited in Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations, and will be compelled to do so if the rocket attacks do not stop.

06-68319 (E) 271206

This message must be clearly conveyed to the Palestinian leadership in order to prevent further deterioration of the situation.

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter circulated as a document of the sixty-first session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 13 and 14, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Dan **Gillerman**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

United Nations A/61/682

General Assembly

Distr.: General
27 December 2006

Original: English

Sixty-first session
Agenda item 145
Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone

Performance report on the budget of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006

Report of the Secretary-General

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06-68467 (E) 170107

Summary

The present report contains the performance report on the budget of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL) for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006.

The total expenditure for UNAMSIL for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006 has been linked to the Mission's objective through a number of results-based frameworks, grouped by components, namely, substantive civilian, military, civilian police and support.

Performance of financial resources

(Thousands of United States dollars. Budget year is from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006.)

			Variance	
Category	*Apportionment*	*Expenditure*	*Amount*	*Percentage*
Military and police personnel	36 645.8	34 198.9	2 446.9	6.7
Civilian personnel	28 165.3	26 579.6	1 585.7	5.6
Operational costs	42 728.2	25 358.8	17 369.4	40.7
Gross requirements	**107 539.3**	**86 137.3**	**21 402.0**	**19.9**
Staff assessment income	3 307.8	2 928.9	378.9	11.4
Net requirements	**104 231.5**	**83 208.4**	**21 023.1**	**20.2**
Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted)	—	—	—	—
Total requirements	**107 539.3**	**86 137.3**	**21 402.0**	**19.9**

Human resources incumbency performance

Category	*Approved*[a]	*Planned (average)*	*Actual (average)*	*Vacancy rate (percentage)*[b]
Military observers	141	141	82	41.6
Military contingents	3 250	2 327	2 229	4.2
United Nations police	78	68	47	31.1
International staff	260	194	161	17.3
National staff	474	342	284	17
General temporary assistance				
International	2	0	0	100
National				
United Nations Volunteers	96	94	85	8.9
Government-provided personnel	—	—	—	—
Civilian electoral observers	—	—	—	—

[a] Represents the highest level of authorized strength.

[b] Based on monthly incumbency and planned monthly strength.

The actions to be taken by the General Assembly are set out in section V of the present report.

I. Introduction

1. The budget for the maintenance of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL) for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006 was set out in the report of the Secretary-General of 13 March 2005 (A/59/758) and amounted to $107,159,700 gross ($103,851,900 net), inclusive of $17,932,900 gross ($16,887,000 net) for the liquidation of the Mission for the period from 1 January to 30 June 2006. It provided for the maximum deployment of 141 military observers, 3,250 military contingents, 78 United Nations police, 260 international staff, 474 national staff and 96 United Nations Volunteers.

2. On the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in its report on UNAMSIL (A/59/736/Add.9), the General Assembly, by its resolution 59/14 B, appropriated an amount of $89,606,400 for the maintenance of the Mission for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2005 and an amount of $17,932,900 for the liquidation of the Mission for the period from 1 January to 30 June 2006. These amounts have been assessed on Member States.

II. Mandate performance

3. The mandate of UNAMSIL was established by the Security Council in its resolution 1270 (1999). The mandate for the performance period was provided by the Council in its resolutions 1537 (2004), 1562 (2004) and 1610 (2005).

4. UNAMSIL was mandated to help the Security Council achieve an overall objective, namely, to consolidate peace and stability in Sierra Leone.

5. Within this overall objective, UNAMSIL has, during the performance report period, contributed to a number of accomplishments by delivering related key outputs, shown in the frameworks below. These frameworks are grouped by components: political, military, civilian police and support.

6. The present report assesses actual performance against the planned results-based frameworks set out in the 2005/06 budget. In particular, the performance report compares the actual indicators of achievement, that is, the extent to which actual progress has been made during the period against the expected accomplishments, with the planned indicators of achievement and compares the actually completed outputs with the planned outputs.

Component 1: substantive civilian

Expected accomplishment 1.1: political stability in Sierra Leone

Planned indicators of achievement	*Actual indicators of achievement*
1.1.1 Continued participation of at least 5 out of the 10 political parties that participated in the last elections in the political process, including in Parliament and Government	Achieved. 8 political parties remained active in the political process. However, as new elections were not held, only the 3 political parties which won seats during the 2002 elections continued to participate in the Parliament
1.1.2 Comprehensive regional policy on cross-border issues agreed and signed by the members of the Mano River Union and other stakeholders	By October 2005, an operational Mano River Union framework for enhanced regional cooperation and political dialogue was in place. A Mano River Union Joint Technical Committee on cooperation and coordination of security and defence issues was established
1.1.3 No reported cases of illegal movement of small arms and light weapons	Achieved

Planned outputs	*Completed (number or yes/no)*	*Remarks*
Organization of meetings between the Government and political parties to facilitate political dialogue and use of the good offices of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General to hold discussions with political parties	Yes	UNAMSIL organized 20 meetings with political parties, in the framework of the Mission's initiative on inter-party dialogue to build consensus and promote regular consultations among political stakeholders on issues of national interest UNAMSIL also facilitated 8 meetings on intra-party dialogue and reconciliation for the main opposition party, All Peoples' Congress
Regular political analyses and advice to the Economic Community of West African States on Sierra Leone and the Mano River Union	Yes	UNAMSIL organized 7 political briefings for the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). Moreover, 8 consultative meetings with the Mano River Union secretariat were held on the expanded role of the Mano River Union to implement programmes for promoting peace in the subregion UNAMSIL also held 3 meetings with ECOWAS on cross-border issues
Two reports of the Secretary-General	Yes	
Organization of 40 press briefings to local and international journalists, including on the political situation of Sierra Leone and drawdown of the Mission	Yes	

Production and broadcast of 12 daily and 29 weekly news programmes, 12 Voice of Children and public affairs programmes on Radio UNAMSIL and three co-productions with Sierra Leone Broadcasting Services	Yes
Training of 50 local journalists on ethical and professional reporting	Yes
Advice to 19 local councils on good governance and promotion of reconciliation and peace in Sierra Leone	Yes
6 inter-mission meetings among UNAMSIL, the United Nations Mission in Liberia and the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire on cooperation and sharing of information related to security in the subregion	Yes

Expected accomplishment 1.2: consolidation of State authority, decentralization of power and good governance

Planned indicators of achievement	*Actual indicators of achievement*
1.2.1 Increase in the Government of Sierra Leone's revenue from diamond export from $120 million in 2004/05 to $150 million in 2005/06	Achieved
1.2.2 Deployment of resident magistrates in all 12 districts, compared to 5 districts in 2004/05	Achieved. 17 resident magistrates were deployed in all 12 districts
1.2.3 Recruitment of 8 additional judges in 2005/06, compared to 6 judges in 2004/05	Achieved
1.2.4 Reduction in the percentage of adjournment of court cases from 90 per cent of cases in 2004/05 to 70 per cent in 2005/06	Not achieved owing to insufficient institutional capacity Adjournment of cases was reduced from 90 per cent to 76.5 per cent

Planned outputs	*Completed (number or yes/no)*	*Remarks*
Monitoring of 300 mining sites through joint patrolling by the United Nations military observers and civilian police, together with Sierra Leone police and the Sierra Leone Armed Forces	No	During the implementation of the UNAMSIL drawdown plan, the Mission no longer had the anticipated capacity to monitor the mining sites. In an effort to manage its limited resources, the Mission had to accord a lower priority to the issue of monitoring mining sites
Conduct of joint assessment, in cooperation with the Government of Sierra Leone, of the status of diamond mining in 2 diamond mining districts	No	During the implementation of the UNAMSIL drawdown plan, the Mission no longer had the anticipated capacity to conduct joint assessment visits of the mining sites
Organization of 6 coordination meetings of the High-level Diamond Steering Committee on support for the diamond sector	No	1 emergency High-Level Diamond Steering Committee meeting was held. This was due to the Government's state of preparedness to make submissions to such high-level meetings. High-level meetings were indefinitely postponed owing to lack of proper documentation on the part of the Government
Advice, in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), to the Law Reform Commission on the comprehensive reform of the justice sector	Yes	2 meetings were held with the Law Reform Commission, which submitted 5 draft laws on the reform of the justice sector to the Attorney General
Advice, in collaboration with UNDP, to the judiciary on the recruitment of 10 resident magistrates	Yes	2 training workshops for magistrates were held at the Sierra Leone Law School
Organization of 2 workshops, in cooperation with UNDP, for the Sierra Leone judiciary sector on dispensation of justice	Yes	2 workshops were organized. A case tracking and reporting system was established, which is now in use in all magistrate courts: UNAMSIL provided advice on the system set-up
Collection of data on pending caseloads, pre-trial detentions and overcrowding of prisons in cooperation with UNDP and the Department for International Development of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Yes	
Organization of 12 coordination meetings with United Nations agencies, donors and the Government of Sierra Leone on development assistance and mobilization of resources for the transition plan	Yes	17 coordination meetings with United Nations agencies, donors and the Government of Sierra Leone on development assistance and the mobilization of resources for the transition plan

Expected accomplishment 1.3: progress towards respect for and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Sierra Leone

Planned indicators of achievement	*Actual indicators of achievement*
1.3.1 15 per cent of reported cases of domestic violence against women and children are prosecuted in 2005/06, compared to 12 per cent in 2003/04 (180 of 1,520 reported cases were prosecuted)	Achieved
1.3.2 Promulgation of 1 law on human rights incorporating international human rights instruments	Achieved. In addition, Parliament passed the law aimed at fighting trafficking in humans. 4 bills were prepared, including on matrimonial causes, customary marriages, intestate succession, and domestic violence, by the Parliamentary Committee on Human Rights, in cooperation with UNAMSIL and human rights advocacy groups to give effect to the provisions of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Planned outputs	*Completed (number or yes/no)*	*Remarks*
Advice to Parliament and Parliamentary Committee on Human Rights, including on adoption of laws on human rights in accordance with international standards	Yes	UNAMSIL organized 2 training programmes aimed at enhancing the capacity of Parliament to promote and protect human rights, and at sensitizing Parliament to the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission
Training of 35 Sierra Leone Armed Forces officers, 100 Sierra Leone police officers, 500 government officials and 500 human rights monitors on human rights issues	35	Sierra Leone Armed Forces officers trained
	44	Sierra Leone Police officers trained. As the Sierra Leone Police have other competing activities, it was not possible to train as many officers as envisaged
	210	Government officials trained. Even with clear plans in place, it was not possible to secure the participation of government officials
	750	Monitors on human rights trained
Organization of 2 seminars in support of the 4 regional human rights reference centres, in cooperation with human rights non-governmental organizations	Yes	

Component 2: military

Expected accomplishment 2.1: security maintained throughout Sierra Leone

Planned indicators of achievement	*Actual indicators of achievement*
2.1.1 No reported border incursions	Achieved
2.1.2 No reported internal security incidents requiring military intervention	Achieved
2.1.3 Government of Sierra Leone assumes full responsibility for security throughout the country	Achieved

Planned outputs	*Completed (number or yes/no)*	*Remarks*
Organization of daily, monthly and quarterly meetings with security agencies of the Government of Sierra Leone	Yes	
24,288 mobile patrol person days (3 military observers per patrol x 4 patrols each from 11 team sites x 184 days)	7,168	Mobile patrol person days were carried out from all 11 sites (1 site in Freetown + 10 regional sites). The lower number of patrols than planned was due to the low level of threats and improved security situation
110,400 foot patrol person days (20 troops per patrol x 10 patrols per battalion x 3 battalions x 184 days)	6,180	Foot patrol person days were carried out due to the lower level of threats than anticipated and improved security situation
1,200 air patrol hours	191	Air patrol and manoeuvre hours due to the low level of threats and improved security situation
142,600 battalion-size quick responses person days (775 troops per battalion x 1 battalion quick response task x 184 days)	114,868	Battalion-size quick responses person days, mainly due to the lower actual average number of troops than budgeted
12,880 guard person days for the provision of security to support to the Special Court for Sierra Leone (70 troops x 184 days)	18,480	Guard person days for the provision of security to support to the Special Court for Sierra Leone

Component 3: civilian police

Expected accomplishment 3.1: effective and accountable Sierra Leone police service and enhanced public law and order

Planned indicators of achievement	*Actual indicators of achievement*
3.1.1 Maintenance of the strength of Sierra Leone Police at 9,500 officers	Sierra Leone Police strength at 9,146 police personnel, including civilian and auxiliary staff
3.1.2 Deployment of Sierra Leone Police in all 26 police divisions, compared to 19 in 2003/04 and 22 in 2004/05	Achieved. 8,596 Sierra Leone Police officers and men deployed in all 26 police divisions
3.1.2 10 per cent decrease in the number of reported serious crimes in 2005/06 compared to 4 per cent decrease in 2004/05 from 6,340 reported cases in 2003/04	During the reporting period, there was a 2.5 per cent increase in serious crime. This was attributable to high unemployment of youth, the increase in the overall population of Freetown and lack of capacity of the Sierra Leone Police to cope up with such a rise in crime. The rise in the crime rate could also be associated with the removal of the security umbrella provided by the UNAMSIL troops, which had its own deterrence value in areas where they were deployed

Planned outputs	*Completed (number or yes/no)*	*Remarks*
Training of 900 newly recruited Sierra Leone Police officers to cover attrition	1,292	Newly recruited Sierra Leone Police officers trained and graduated
Training of 50 Sierra Leone Police officers in strategic areas of diamond-mining policing, cross-border security and airport security	98	Sierra Leone Police officers trained in strategic areas of diamond-mining policing, cross-border security and airport security
Training of 150 Sierra Leone Police officers in the specialist units of Criminal Investigations Department, Commercial Crime, Drugs and Narcotics Control Unit, Interpol, Family Support Unit and Community Relations Department	130	Sierra Leone Police officers trained in the specialist units of Criminal Investigations Department, Commercial Crime, Drugs and Narcotics Control Unit, Interpol, Family Support Unit and Community Relations Department
Management training for 300 serving Sierra Leone Police middle managers	397	Serving Sierra Leone Police middle managers trained

Training of 150 serving Sierra Leone Police officers in field coaching	45	Sierra Leone Police officers trained in field coaching. A lower than planned number was due to non-availability of prospective trainees for reasons related to exigencies of duty
Weekly meeting with Sierra Leone Police on police training and mentoring-related issues	Yes	Including with the Partnership Board, Tasking and Coordinating Groups and Steering Committee on Police

Component 4: support

Expected accomplishment 4.1: effective and efficient logistical and administrative support to the Mission

Planned indicators of achievement	*Actual indicators of achievement*
4.1.1 100 per cent compliance with International Civil Aviation standards in air to ground communications	Achieved

Planned outputs	*Completed (number or yes/no)*	*Remarks*
Maintenance period		
Service improvements:		
Introduction of very high frequency (VHF) air-to-ground communications to improve connection and availability, and reducing dependency on high frequency (HF) equipment	No	Equipment delivered to the mission was incomplete
Military and police personnel:		
Emplacement and repatriation of 3,250 troops, 141 military observers and 78 civilian police	2,229	Troops
	82	Military observers
	47	Civilian police
Civilian personnel:		
Administration of an average number of 259 international staff, 471 national staff and 94 United Nations Volunteers	218	International staff
	408	National staff
	85	United Nations Volunteers
Facilities and infrastructure:		
Maintenance of 49 facilities in 15 locations and 3 camps	Yes	

Operation and maintenance of 70 generators	Yes	
Ground transportation:		
Operation and maintenance of 497 vehicles, including 1 armoured vehicle, in 3 locations	Yes	
Air transportation:		
Operation and maintenance of 1 fixed-wing aircraft and 13 rotary-wing aircraft	Yes	
Maintenance of 7 day x 24 hour airfield and facility rescue fire coverage at Mammy Yoko and Hastings and 7 day x 8 hour coverage at Kenema	Yes	
Communications:		
Support and maintenance of 14 very small aperture terminal (VSAT) systems in 9 locations and 14 telephone exchanges	Yes	
Information technology:		
Support and maintenance of Wide Area Network, 793 desktops, 218 laptops, 730 printers and 50 scanners/digital senders, in 18 locations	976	Desktops
	206	Laptops
	567	Printers
	11	Locations
Medical:		
Operation and maintenance of 1 level-I clinic, 6 level-I medical facilities, 1 level-II medical facility and 1 level-III medical facility for Mission personnel and civilian personnel in emergency cases	Yes	
Operation and maintenance of HIV voluntary confidential counselling and testing facilities for all personnel	Yes	149 HIV tests performed
HIV sensitization programme for all personnel, including peer education	Yes	

Security:		
24-hour security to Mission premises, installations/facilities, 11 United Nations military observer team sites, 10 civilian police team sites and VIP protection	Yes	
Security briefing to all Mission personnel and official visitors to the Mission	Yes	22 security briefings, including 13 advisories provided to Mission personnel and official visitors
Investigation of all accidents and incidents involving Mission personnel and property	Yes	70 accidents, 141 incidents investigated

Expected accomplishment 4.2: effective and efficient completion of the administrative liquidation of the mission

Planned indicators of achievement	*Actual indicators of achievement*
4.2.1 Issuance of a certificate of clearance by Sierra Leone local authorities indemnifying UNAMSIL from environmental liabilities in all areas evacuated	Achieved. Certificates for the 18 locations vacated by UNAMSIL entities have been obtained. The certificates obtained from landlords/owners indemnifies UNAMSIL from any liability from environmental degradation resulting from activities it carried out while occupying the vacated premises
4.2.2 Issuance of clean-up certificates by Sierra Leone authorities and property owners for 15 locations vacated by UNAMSIL entities in accordance with Sierra Leone Government public health laws and regulations	Achieved

Planned outputs	*Completed (number or yes/no)*	*Remarks*
Service improvements:		
Collection and disposal of hazardous and non-hazardous wastes generated at all Mission installations/locations in an environmentally friendly manner (ongoing)	Yes	A total of 5,446 metric tonnes of solid wastes and a total of 8,295 cubic metres of sewage and sludge were collected from UNAMSIL locations at Hastings, Freetown and Lungi and disposed of in an environmentally friendly manner
Implementation of environment protection measures at all locations (ongoing) vacated by the Mission, including restoration of sites to their original condition (prior to the UNAMSIL presence)	Yes	All 18 sites vacated by UNAMSIL entities during the reporting period have been environmentally cleaned up and restored to their original condition. Waste collection and storage receptacles were placed at strategic locations

Liquidation:		
Civilian personnel:		
Administration of an average number of 140 international and 257 national staff	102	International staff administered
	159	National staff administered
Repatriation of 140 international staff and separation of 257 national staff	121	Returned to duty station
	17	Repatriated
		The difference between the planned and actual outputs for repatriation of the international staff was due to the establishment of the United Nations Integrated Office in Sierra Leone (UNIOSIL)
Facilities and infrastructure:		
Maintenance and repair of 18 facilities in 8 locations	Yes	
Restoration, clean-up and handing over of 49 facilities in 15 locations	Yes	
Operation and maintenance of 40 generators	Yes	
Ground transportation:		
Operation and maintenance of 172 vehicles in 1 location	Yes	
Air transportation:		
Operation and maintenance of 1 fixed-wing and 2 rotary-wing aircraft	Yes	
Maintenance of 7 day x 24 hour airfield and facility rescue fire coverage at Mammy Yoko and Hastings	Yes	
Communications:		
Support and maintenance of 3 VSAT systems in 3 locations and 5 telephone exchanges	Yes	Maintained 3 VSAT systems (receive-only for UN Radio) plus 7 VSAT systems (TX/RX) at 7 locations and 12 telephone exchanges at 5 locations
Information technology:		
Support and maintenance of 314 desktops, 132 laptops, 244 printers and 30 scanners/digital senders in 4 locations	Yes	Wide Area Network supported and maintained for 512 desktops, 107 laptops and 334 printers in 5 locations

Medical:		
Operation and maintenance of 1 level-I clinic for mission personnel and civilian population in emergency cases	Yes	
Liquidation:		
Disposal of 2,541 equipment items amounting to $5.5 million and 539 prefabricated buildings amounting to $2.9 million through donation to the Government of Sierra Leone	Yes	2,914 equipment items amounting to $5.66 million and 414 prefabricated buildings amounting to $2.67 million were donated to the Government of Sierra Leone
Disposal of 8,825 equipment items amounting to $32 million and 760 prefabricated buildings amounting to $6 million through transfer to the United Nations Logistics Base/other missions, including the preparation for transfer of 336 vehicles, 123 generators, 4,502 communications equipment and 2,292 information technology equipment items		Actual outputs will be reported in the context of the interim and final disposition of assets
Reconciliation and closing of 3 bank accounts	No	Standard Chartered Bank United States dollars account in Freetown closed effective July 2006 Standard Chartered Bank leones account still open owing to outstanding cheques JP Morgan Chase account still open pending clearance of outstanding vouchers/deposits resulting from the July reconciliation
Settlement of vendor and supplier invoices and closing of 5 major contracts	Yes	11,635 vouchers processed to settle vendor and supplier invoices. 5 major contracts were closed or transferred to UNIOSIL

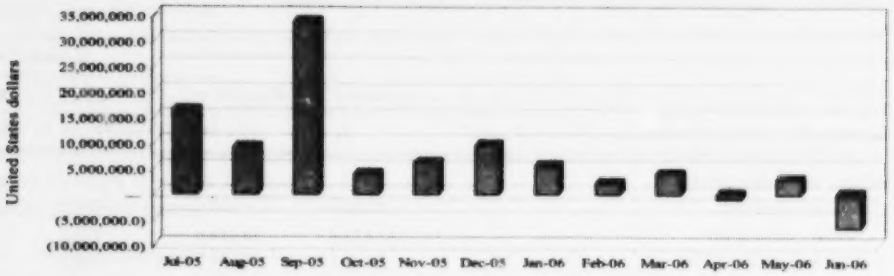
III. Resource performance

A. Financial resources

(Thousands of United States dollars. Budget year is from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006.)

			Variance	
	Apportionment	*Expenditure*	*Amount*	*Percentage*
Category	*(1)*	*(2)*	*(3)=(1)-(2)*	*(4)=(3)÷(1)*
Military and police personnel				
Military observers	3 250.6	2 190.6	1 060.0	32.6
Military contingents	31 832.4	30 854.6	977.8	3.1
Civilian police	1 562.8	1 153.7	409.1	26.2
Formed police units	—	—	—	—
Subtotal	**36 645.8**	**34 198.9**	**2 446.9**	**6.7**
Civilian personnel				
International staff	24 290.3	22 681.9	1 608.4	6.6
National staff	2 186.0	1 751.2	434.8	19.9
United Nations Volunteers	1 689.0	2 146.5	(457.5)	(27.1)
Subtotal	**28 165.3**	**26 579.6**	**1 585.7**	**5.6**
Operational costs				
General temporary assistance	379.6	14.3	365.3	96.2
Government-provided personnel	—	—	—	—
Civilian electoral observers	—	—	—	—
Consultants	77.3	74.5	2.8	3.7
Official travel	411.1	426.7	(15.6)	(3.8)
Facilities and infrastructure	9 488.9	5 723.4	3 765.5	39.7
Ground transportation	2 748.6	1 756.1	992.5	36.1
Air transportation	21 721.6	11 586.2	10 135.4	46.7
Naval transportation	—	—	—	—
Communications	3 550.9	2 170.3	1 380.6	38.9
Information technology	1 063.9	1 005.8	58.1	5.5
Medical	1 675.9	1 582.1	93.8	5.6
Special equipment	688.0	423.4	264.6	38.5
Other supplies, services and equipment	922.4	596.0	326.4	35.4
Quick-impact projects	—	—	—	—
Subtotal	**42 728.2**	**25 358.8**	**17 369.4**	**40.7**
Gross requirements	**107 539.3**	**86 137.3**	**21 402.0**	**19.9**
Staff assessment income	3 307.8	2 928.9	378.9	11.5
Net requirements	**104 231.5**	**83 208.4**	**21 023.1**	**20.2**
Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted)	—	—	—	—
Total requirements	**107 539.3**	**86 137.3**	**21 402.0**	**19.9**

B. Monthly expenditure patterns



7. The two spending peaks in July and September 2005 were due mainly to the raising of obligations for air operations and some procurement activities for equipment in July 2005, as well as the raising of obligations for standard troop cost reimbursement, contingent-owned equipment, self-sustainment and majority procurement activities for equipment and vehicles in September 2005. A total of negative expenditures in April 2006 was due to the cancellation of obligations as a result of a review of the spending situation under air operations. Similarly, in June 2006, upon the review of the actual requirements for the reporting period, a further cancellation of the obligations under air operations and under contingent-owned equipment and self-sustainment was carried out.

C. Other income and adjustments

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	*Amount*
Interest income	7 9558
Other/miscellaneous income	27 110
Voluntary contributions in cash	—
Prior-period adjustments	(10.6)
Savings on or cancellation of prior-period obligations	109 461.4
Total	**120 117.6**

D. Expenditure for contingent-owned equipment: major equipment and self-sustainment

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	*Expenditure*
Major equipment	
Military contingents	—
Subtotal	—
Self-sustainment	
Facilities and infrastructure	
Catering (kitchen facilities)	235.5
Office equipment	197.2
Electrical	29.3
Minor engineering	125.5
Laundry and cleaning	287.9
Tentage	144.3
Accommodation	309.1
Miscellaneous general stores	541.9
Communications	
Communications	788.0
Medical	
Medical services	741.5
Special equipment	
Explosive ordnance disposal	78.9
Observation	344.5
Nuclear, biological and chemical protection	—
Field defense stores	—
Subtotal	**3 823.6**
Total	**3 823.6**

Mission factors	*Percentage*	*Effective date*	*Last review date*
A. Applicable to Mission area			
Extreme environmental condition factor	1.2	1 July 2005	31 January 2005
Intensified operational condition factor	2.2	1 July 2005	31 January 2005
Hostile action/forced abandonment factor	1.0	1 July 2005	31 January 2005
B. Applicable to home country			
Incremental transportation factor			
Bangladesh	4.75		
Germany	1.50		
Ghana	0.25		
Jordan	2.00		

E. Value of non-budgeted contributions

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	*Actual value*
Status-of-mission agreement	417.3
Voluntary contributions in kind (non-budgeted)	—
Total	**417.3**

IV. Analysis of variances[1]

	Variance	
Military observers	$1 060.0	32.6%

8. The reduced requirements resulted mainly from the fact that the actual 6-month average of 82 military observers deployed was lower than the 6-month average strength of 141 budgeted owing to the drawdown of military observers, which was faster than planned, before the final closure of the Mission.

	Variance	
Civilian police	$409.1	26.2%

9. The reduced requirements were attributable to the fact that the actual 6-month average civilian police strength of 47 was lower than the budgeted 6-month average civilian police strength of 68 owing to a faster than planned drawdown of civilian police before the final closure of the Mission.

	Variance	
International staff	$1 608.4	6.6%

10. The reduced requirements were due mainly to the higher actual vacancy rate of 17.3 per cent compared to 15 per cent applied in the budget.

	Variance	
National staff	$434.8	19.9%

11. The reduced requirements were due mainly to the higher than budgeted actual vacancy rate of 17 per cent compared to 5 per cent applied in the budget.

[1] Resource variance amounts are expressed in thousands of United States dollars. Analysis is provided for variances of at least plus or minus 5 per cent and $100,000.

	Variance	
United Nations Volunteers	($457.5)	(27.1%)

12. The additional requirements were due mainly to unbudgeted payments for residential security measures, unutilized annual leave days to United Nations Volunteers at the end of December 2005 and to higher than budgeted requirements for resettlement allowance and repatriation travel for Volunteers. These additional requirements were partially offset by an unutilized balance attributable to the actual vacancy rate of 8.9 per cent, which was higher than the no vacancy factor applied in the budget.

	Variance	
General temporary assistance	$365.3	96.2%

13. The unutilized balance was due mainly to the failure of recruitment against two positions (one P-5 and one P-3) for the conduct and discipline team as a result of the unwillingness of applicants to join a closing mission.

	Variance	
Facilities and infrastructure	$3 765.5	39.7%

14. The reduced requirements were attributable mainly to the actual payments made for self-sustainment, based on actual verification reports, which were lower than the figures contained in the signed memorandums of understanding, on which the budget was based.

15. The unutilized balance was also attributable to the cost-sharing arrangement between UNAMSIL and UNIOSIL.

16. Furthermore, the unutilized balances under maintenance services and supplies were due to fewer environmental clean-up activities than were planned for the reporting period as a result of the donation to the Government of Sierra Leone of some of the Mission's large installations at Hastings, where the facilities were not vacated.

	Variance	
Ground transportation	$992.5	36.1%

17. The reduced requirements were attributable mainly to the lower than expected refurbishment costs on vehicles that were transferred to other missions in category 1. The reduced requirements were also attributable to lower costs for petrol, oil and lubricant due to the cost-sharing arrangement between UNAMSIL and UNIOSIL.

18. The reduced requirements were partially offset by an unbudgeted purchase of car-log/fuel-log as per the recommendations contained in the fuel fraud investigation report.

	Variance	
Air transportation	$10 135.4	46.7%

19. The unutilized balance resulted mainly from the fact that two budgeted UNAMSIL helicopters, which were planned to operate until the end of February 2006, were repositioned to the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) by the end of December 2005 as a result of the lower-than-estimated requirements during the liquidation period at UNAMSIL. The unutilized balance was also due to the charge of the cost of the two remaining helicopters to the UNIOSIL account from April 2006 in accordance with the cost-sharing arrangement between UNAMSIL and UNIOSIL. The number of hours flown for aircraft operations was lower than planned for the reason stated above and resulted in reduced requirements for petrol, oil and lubricants.

20. The unutilized balance was further a result of a general decrease in the share per mission for the aviation liability insurance premium owing to the opening and expansion of peacekeeping missions.

	Variance	
Communications	$1 380.6	38.9%

21. The reduced requirements were due mainly to the delayed deployment of contractual personnel for communication support services and the change to a different vendor offering lower cost services.

22. The unutilized balance was also due to the fact that the actual payments made for self-sustainment based on actual verification reports were lower than expected, compared to the signed memorandums of understanding on which the budget was based.

23. The unspent balance was further due to the fact that the remaining staff members made fewer calls than expected.

	Variance	
Special equipment	$264.6	38.5%

24. The unutilized balance was due mainly to the fact that the actual payments made for self-sustainment, based on actual verification reports, were lower than the figures in the signed memorandums of understanding on which the budget was based.

	Variance	
Other supplies, services and equipment	$326.4	35.4%

25. The reduced requirements were due mainly to lower than expected bank charges as a result of the volume of banking transactions being lower than planned.

V. Actions to be taken by the General Assembly

26. **The actions to be taken by the General Assembly in connection with the financing of UNAMSIL are:**

(a) To decide that Member States shall waive their respective shares in other income for the period ended 30 June 2006 amounting to $120,117,600, and their respective shares in the amount of $1,285,300 from the unencumbered balance of $21,402,000 for the period ended 30 June 2006, to be applied to meeting the current and future after-service health insurance liabilities of the United Nations;

(b) To decide on the treatment of the remaining unencumbered balance of $20,116,700 for the period ended 30 June 2006.

VI. Follow-up action taken to implement the requests made by the General Assembly in its resolution 60/279

Paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 60/279

27. The General Assembly, in paragraph 5 of its resolution 60/279, requested the Secretary-General to ensure that the lessons learned from the Mission, including its drawdown stages, were applied, as best practices, in other missions as appropriate and to report thereon in the context of the final performance report.

28. The response to the above General Assembly request is as follows.

Background

29. The Security Council, in its resolution 1610 (2005) of 30 June 2005, extended the mandate of UNAMSIL for a final period of six months, until 31 December 2005. Consequently, the Mission completed its adjustment, drawdown and withdrawal plan, repatriated 3,375 troops and closed down 21 team sites by 31 December 2005. A liquidation office was established on 1 January 2006 with the mandated task of liquidating all UNAMSIL assets by 30 June 2006.

30. UNAMSIL commenced its liquidation with 135 international and 225 national personnel. As the UNAMSIL liquidation process was being launched, UNIOSIL was established as a follow-on peace consolidation mission. Although a good portion of the UNIOSIL staff table was encumbered in early January 2006, very few administrative staff were in place. This presented a challenge to the UNAMSIL liquidation, as the UNIOSIL start-up and the UNAMSIL liquidation both had to be supported with the same human resources. UNAMSIL remained fully engaged in supporting UNIOSIL for the first seven weeks of the liquidation, at which point staff and material resources began the transition to UNIOSIL, function by function. UNIOSIL reciprocated this support in the closing weeks of the UNAMSIL liquidation. Although human and material resources were stretched at times, this staff-sharing arrangement worked well and both missions were able to meet their aims over the six-month period.

31. As shown in the after-action review of the liquidation of UNAMSIL on the website of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, best practices/what worked well were stated as follows.

Planning future support needs for the integrated United Nations office

32. Prior to the formal confirmation of an integrated follow-on mission supported by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, UNAMSIL had taken early steps to come to grips with the scope of the dependency of the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes that would remain after January 2006. Early meetings were initiated with the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General and agency heads, followed by formal and informal contact with country directors of several of the larger organizations to determine existing support capacity and anticipate further needs.

33. In parallel, a country wide communications plan was worked out with the country team, including Department of Safety and Security personnel. One welcome side effect of this communications planning was to bring home to members of the country team how reliant on the Department of Peacekeeping Operations equipment and expertise they had become, especially in the provinces.

34. Following a survey of possible support capability, UNDP assigned an element of their transition support team to work with UNAMSIL on behalf of the country team to come up with a plan for support, with emphasis on the provinces. Offices were cleared directly adjacent to the liquidation team to accommodate the transition support team and to enhance integrated planning and implementation of the transition from UNAMSIL. A microwave link was set up between UNAMSIL and UNDP headquarters and a UNDP virtual local area network (VLAN) was installed in the integrated office so that the planners and expeditors of UNIOSIL could be collocated. The proximity of the transition support team and UNAMSIL was invaluable in sorting out practical, day-to-day issues before they became problems. This approach is highly recommended when transitioning from a peacekeeping operation to a peace support operation such as a peace consolidation office.

Transitioning to integrated provincial offices: the lead agency concept

35. The country team (including UNAMSIL/UNIOSIL) decided that for transparency, ease of accounting and separation of funds, each proposed provincial site would be the responsibility of the major United Nations agency at that site. The agency would become the lead agency for that location and a common services agreement would be put in place to ensure that support costs were equitably charged to each agency using them. UNIOSIL took on the role of lead agency for the major facilities in Freetown such as the Mammy Yoko Headquarters, the major communications and information technology facilities in Freetown and, in cooperation with UNMIL, the Special Court of Sierra Leone.

36. As UNAMSIL prepared to close each field site, the transition support team and liquidation staff from UNAMSIL contacted the lead agency to determine whether that agency would be able to host an expanded United Nations presence in their existing facilities or if they would need to take over the vacated UNAMSIL site. The lead agency and UNAMSIL then prepared a list of equipment required to continue hosting the expanded United Nations presence. The list of equipment was compared to the UNAMSIL preliminary asset disposal plan to determine if it could be sold to the agency at a properly depreciated value. It was envisaged that large capital goods, such as generators, vehicles and water purification units, would be transferred with maintenance records, six months' spare parts and familiarization and training if

required. Security functions were to follow pre-existing country team arrangements modified to suit prevailing conditions.

37. UNAMSIL administration staff worked with the transition support team to ensure that adequate facilities were left at each location and that necessary services were available to support UNIOSIL integrated requirements and an expected electoral presence for the 2007 elections. This entailed both selling equipment to sister United Nations funds, agencies and programmes and transferring assets to UNIOSIL.

Anticipating the handover of Radio UNAMSIL

38. Radio UNAMSIL, now UN Radio, and its equipment are set to be handed over to the Government of Sierra Leone at such time as it, with UNDP concurrence, is able to assume responsibility for the radio station. In preparation for this handover, communications, engineering and procurement staff undertook to transition the radio transmitter/receivers from the current VSAT platform to more easily maintainable and cheaper off-the-shelf equipment and to ensure that local technicians were trained to maintain it. This would not only add to the reliability and uptime of the equipment, but it would also make the equipment locally serviceable, contributing in small part to building local capacity.

39. In connection with the lessons learned from UNAMSIL as best practices as shown on the Department of Peacekeeping Operations website, specific actionable recommendations were also made in the areas related to the transition to a multifunctional mission, liquidation and the role of senior Mission management, staffing the liquidation team, staff's leave planning in the final days of the liquidation, financial, procurement and property management delegations being put in place in a timely manner, cases from the Headquarters Property Survey Board, assets database management, complete and accurate inventories, post drawdown planning and budgeting.

Paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 60/279

40. In paragraph 6 of its resolution 60/279, the General Assembly noted with concern the cases of fraud and presumptive fraud identified by the Mission and requested the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly at its sixty-first session on the matters, including investigations undertaken in this regard and actions taken regarding proven cases, in accordance with established procedures, as well as efforts to recover any lost funds. The response to the foregoing request is as follows.

41. The investigations have been completed in UNAMSIL. In cases of civilian personnel involved in theft, the most commonly used practice is "non-renewal of contract". Another measure is placing a note in the file in the Personnel Section. So far no action has been taken to recover lost funds owing to lack of evidence of gross negligence or clear and wilful misconduct.

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Agenda item 147
Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara

Performance report on the budget of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006

Report of the Secretary-General

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Summary

The present report contains the performance report on the budget of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006.

The total expenditure for MINURSO for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006 has been linked to the Mission's objective through a number of results-based frameworks, grouped by component: substantive civilian, military and support.

Performance of financial resources

(Thousands of United States dollars. Budget year is from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006.)

			Variance	
Category	*Apportionment*	*Expenditure*	*Amount*	*Percentage*
Military and police personnel	6 432.8	6 217.6	215.2	3.3
Civilian personnel	17 545.0	15 807.2	1 737.8	9.9
Operational costs	21 562.6	20 323.6	1 239.0	5.7
Gross requirements	**45 540.4**	**42 348.4**	**3 192.0**	**7.0**
Staff assessment income	2 506.0	2 191.5	316.5	12.6
Net requirements	**43 032.4**	**40 156.9**	**2 875.5**	**6.7**
Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted)	3 118.1	3 761.3	(643.2)	(20.6)
Total requirements	**48 658.5**	**46 109.7**	**2 548.8**	**5.2**

Human resources incumbency performance

Category	*Approved*[a]	*Actual (average)*	*Vacancy rate (percentage)*[b]
Military observers	203	195	4.1
Military contingents	27	27	0
United Nations police[c]	8	6	27.1
International staff[c]	145	125	14.0
National staff	128	104	18.6
Government-provided personnel	10	4	60.8

[a] Represents the highest level of authorized strength.

[b] Based on monthly incumbency and approved monthly strength.

[c] Excluding 157 international staff posts and 73 United Nations police authorized for the Identification Commission for which no budget provision had been made, as shown in the report of the Secretary-General on the budget for MINURSO for the period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005 (A/58/657).

The actions to be taken by the General Assembly are set out in section V of the present report.

I. Introduction

1. The budget for the maintenance of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006 was set out in the report of the Secretary-General of 20 December 2004 (A/59/629) and amounted to $46,328,400 gross ($43,694,400 net), inclusive of budgeted voluntary contributions in kind of $3,118,100. It provided for resource requirements for the maintenance of the Mission and the deployment of 203 military observers, 27 military contingents, 8 United Nations police, 145 international staff, 128 national staff and 10 Government-provided personnel. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions recommended that the General Assembly appropriate $45,641,800 gross ($43,105,900 net) for the same period (A/59/736/Add.5, para. 33).

2. The General Assembly, by its resolution A/59/308, appropriated an amount of $45,540,400 gross for the maintenance of the Mission for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006. That amount has been assessed on Member States.

II. Mandate performance

3. The mandate of the Mission was established by the Security Council in its resolution 690 (1991). The mandate for the performance period was provided by the Council in its resolutions 1598 (2005), 1675 (2006) and 1720 (2006).

4. The Mission is mandated to help the Security Council achieve an overall objective, namely, a just, lasting and mutually acceptable political solution, which will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara.

5. Within this overall objective, the Mission has, during the reporting period, contributed to a number of accomplishments by delivering related key outputs, shown in the frameworks below. These frameworks are grouped by component: substantive civilian, military and support.

6. The present report assesses actual performance against the planned results-based frameworks set out in the 2005/06 budget. In particular, the performance report compares the actual indicators of achievement, that is, the extent to which actual progress has been made during the period against the expected accomplishments, with the planned indicators of achievement and compares the actually completed outputs with the planned outputs.

Component 1: substantive civilian

Expected accomplishment 1.1: progress towards the political settlement of the final status of Western Sahara

Planned indicators of achievement	*Actual indicators of achievement*	
1.1.1 Direct dialogue between the parties	No direct dialogue took place	
Planned outputs	*Completed (number or yes/no)*	*Remarks*
Regular high-level political consultations by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General with the parties, neighbouring countries and key Member States	Yes	The Special Representative of the Secretary-General held introductory meetings with the parties (Morocco and the Frente Polisario) and neighbouring countries (Algeria and Mauritania) in September 2005. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General held further high-level meetings with the parties in April 2006, and more regular meetings with the parties occurred throughout the reporting period The Special Representative of the Secretary-General accompanied the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General for Western Sahara on his mission to the region in October 2005. Approximately 17 meetings with the parties and neighbouring States were held during the visit
Political briefings and escorts to 12 visiting Member State delegations and 6 visiting non-governmental, international, governmental and media organizations	14	Diplomatic delegations
	10	Visiting journalists were provided with briefings and escorts. Requests for information were answered on a regular basis
4 reports of the Secretary-General to the Security Council	2	The Secretary-General briefed the Security Council in October 2005 and April 2006. On each occasion, the Council renewed the Mission's mandate for a six-month period
Continuation of confidence-building measures between the parties, including the family visits programme, telephone service and the regular mail exchange programme covering all refugee camps and locations of origin of the refugees	Yes	18 family exchange visits took place as part of the confidence-building measures programme. This is less than what was planned as the programme was suspended by the parties until early 2006 and was again suspended in May 2006. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and MINURSO continue their efforts to resume the visits as soon as possible The telephone communication programme was maintained for 5 refugee camps. Dakhla camp remains without telephone service because of technical difficulties resulting from the terrain and the distance between Dakhla camp and the communications hub

		The postal service has never been implemented because of objections by both parties
180 summaries of local/international media in 4 languages on regional and international issues related to Western Sahara for Member States	322	1 summary per weekday and 1 per weekend, excluding holidays; plus 20 special issues on pertinent topics, or (5 days x 52 weeks) + (1 x 52 weekends) + 20 special topics - 10 holidays
22 press releases in support of the confidence-building measures humanitarian programme, including support for funding appeals of UNHCR	2	MINURSO issued 2 press releases in respect of the resumption of the family visits programme. MINURSO also held 3 meetings with UNHCR to review implementation of the programme

Expected accomplishment 1.2: progress towards resolution of humanitarian issues, in particular those related to prisoners of war, refugees and persons unaccounted for

Planned indicators of achievement	*Actual indicators of achievement*
1.2.1 Monthly food delivery to all 5 refugee camps	Achieved. A total of 6 refugee camps received regular food deliveries
1.2.2 Release of all remaining prisoners of war	Achieved

Planned outputs	*Completed (number or yes/no)*	*Remarks*
4 meetings with donor countries and the World Food Programme on assessment of the food situation	2	Donor meetings aimed at garnering support to address humanitarian requirements resulting from damage to the refugee camps caused by floods
4 political analysis/recommendations reports for the parties on prisoners of war, persons unaccounted for and refugees	No	Not required for prisoners of war since the Frente Polisario released all remaining prisoners of war in August 2005

Component 2: military

Expected accomplishment 2.1: compliance of the parties with the ceasefire agreements

Planned indicators of achievement	*Actual indicators of achievement*
Zero serious violations of ceasefire and related agreements	No serious violation of the ceasefire. This includes no offensive operations across the buffer strip and no exchange of weapons fire between parties
	20 violations of Military Agreement No. 1 that were not serious. This includes concentration of troops, military patrols into the buffer strip and unauthorized deployments and constructions

Planned outputs	*Completed (number or yes/no)*	*Remarks*
Bimonthly liaison meetings with local commanders and high-ranking military officers from both parties	25	Meetings The MINURSO Force Commander held 15 liaison meetings with the Royal Moroccan Army commanders and 10 with the Frente Polisario commanders
23,360 United Nations military observer mobile patrol person days (4 United Nations military observers per patrol x 16 patrols per day x 365 days)	28,600	United Nations military observers conducted 7,150 patrols, which add up to 28,600 patrol person days (4 military observers per patrol) More patrols were conducted owing to the introduction of a new concept of operations
208 military observers to conduct liaison day visits to units and headquarters of the armed forces of both parties (4 military observers per visit x once per week x 52 weeks)	Yes	
733 air-patrol hours from 9 team sites for inspection of 4,312 military units of both parties	706	A total of 706 air-patrol hours for the reporting period. Air patrols were disrupted during the change in air operations contracts, which resulted in a loss of 19 days in December 2005 A total of 16,986 military units were inspected/visited by both ground and air patrols. In the present format, the data cannot be split between air and ground patrols
Ad hoc inspections by air and ground of strong points along the 2,200-km-long berm	No	Visits to strong points by air were not possible owing to the risk from mines and unexploded ordnance and air safety regulations. Ground patrols to strong points were conducted, but were denied entry to inspect weapons
Investigations of alleged violations of ceasefire agreements by either party as required	6	Allegations were investigated

Expected accomplishment 2.2: reduction in mine threats on both sides of the berm

Planned indicators of achievement	*Actual indicators of achievement*
Zero persons killed/injured by exploded mines/ordnance	No fatal accident occurred during the reporting period. 1 Royal Morocco Army soldier was injured when he stepped on an anti-personnel mine

Planned outputs	*Completed (number or yes/no)*	*Remarks*
Marking of unexploded ordnance and monitoring of disposal operations	Yes	56 mines/unexploded ordnance marked by MINURSO 125 mines/unexploded ordnance destroyed by the Royal Moroccan Army. Destruction monitored by MINURSO 1,544 expired ammunition destroyed by the Royal Moroccan Army. Destruction monitored by MINURSO
Support for establishment of the electronic database on mines and unexploded ordnance	No	MINURSO team sites currently maintain information in Excel databases. The Information Management System for Mine Action database could not be deployed during the budget period 2005/06 since its development by the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining had not been completed. The database is expected to be established during the budget period for 2006/07

Component 3: support

Expected accomplishment 3.1: effective and efficient logistical, administrative and security support to the Mission

Planned indicators of achievement	*Actual indicators of achievement*
3.1.1 Reduction in the number of major traffic accidents involving United Nations vehicles from 7 in 2003/04 to 0 in 2005/06	The Mission incurred 9 major accidents (defined as those in which damages exceed $500), 4 of which were incurred by military personnel and 5 by civilian staff, compared with 5 in the previous period. The total repair cost for the 9 vehicles was $11,800, an average of $1,311 each. Eight of the vehicles were repaired and 1 presented for write-off, since the cost of repair ($2,133) exceeded the residual value of the vehicle ($2,336)
3.1.2 Reduction in the recruitment time for national staff from 8 weeks in 2004/05 to 5 weeks in 2005/06	While there was success with some posts in meeting the 5-week recruitment deadline, other posts took up to 6.5 months to fill. A freeze on recruitment of numerous posts during 2005/06 was implemented while waiting for the recommendation (and impact on the Mission's staffing structure) of the mission management assessment undertaken in May 2005, which contributed to posts remaining vacant. In addition, the MINURSO Personnel Section experienced considerable turnover of staff and understaffing during the budget period, which contributed to delays in the recruitment process

Planned outputs	*Completed (number or yes/no)*	*Remarks*
Service improvements		
Implementation of safe driving enforcement programmes	Yes	A road safety week campaign was launched
Implementation of improved national staff recruitment process	Yes	By the end of the budget period, a better organized and managed recruitment process was implemented. A log and filing system was established. The process has been centralized, with 1 staff member designated to ensure full knowledge and responsibility. Multiple vacancies are now consolidated into one advertisement for cost and time efficiency. Rosters of qualified candidates from one advertisement may be used to fill related vacant functions
Military personnel		
Emplacement, rotation and repatriation for an average strength of 230 military personnel	226	Average strength of military personnel in the Mission during the budget year. The high vacancy rate of military observer personnel was the result of delayed deployments, unexpected early repatriations (for example, for medical reasons), and contributions from troop-contributing countries being slightly less than authorized
Supply and storage of rations and bottled water for an average strength of 230 military personnel	226	Military personnel supplied. Ready-to-eat meals and bottled water are stored at the team site level and in the Laayoune warehouse Fresh rations are delivered to team sites from Laayoune. The contractor has fresh items in storage, as per contract. In the team sites, a stock is kept by the military observers of about 14 days
Civilian personnel		
Administration of an average number of 145 international and 128 national staff	125 104	Average international staff and Average national staff Delays in the recruitment process and a freeze on recruitment implemented during budget period 2005/06 while awaiting the impact of the mission management assessment on the future staffing structure of the Mission contributed to the understaffing. The Mission Management Assessment report was submitted pursuant to Security Council resolutions 1570 (2004) and 1598 (2005), whereby the Council requested a comprehensive review of the structure of the administrative and other civilian components of MINURSO

Facilities and infrastructure		
Maintenance and repair of 16 facilities and 280 prefabricated buildings in 12 locations	16	Facilities
	280	Prefabricated containers
		During the reporting period, 2 sector headquarters (Smara and Dakhla) and 1 team site (Dakhla) were closed. A total of 16 facilities were repaired: headquarters; the Identification Commission; the MINURSO Logistics Base; 2 sector headquarters; 10 team sites; and the Tindouf Liaison Office. Services were provided to 280 prefabricated containers in 12 locations. General upkeep includes preventive maintenance and short work orders in relation to facilities accommodation for various uses, power and water supply and sanitation, heating, ventilation and air conditioning, camp equipment and environmental clean-up
Operation and maintenance of 44 generators in 16 facilities	Yes	Power was maintained at 100 per cent reliability in all 16 facilities of the Mission as enumerated above
Ground transportation		
Operation and maintenance of 303 vehicles	303	Vehicles maintained comprising 254 light and 49 heavy vehicles. The latter include heavy cargo trucks, a fuel diesel tanker, engineering equipment, cranes, recovery trucks and forklifts
Air transportation		
Operation and maintenance of 3 fixed-wing and 3 rotary-wing aircraft	3	Fixed-wing aircraft
	3	Rotary-wing aircraft
Communications		
Support and maintenance of 4 PABX telephone systems, 14 transponders, 14 satellite Earth stations, VHF, HF and microwave communication systems in 12 locations, including confidence-building measures project	4	PABX telephone systems
	14	Satellite Earth stations and microwave systems supported in 12 locations through regular maintenance and replacement of outdated equipment
		Support for the confidence-building measures telephone project for 5 refugee camps. UNHCR reimburses MINURSO for the cost of telephone charges
Information technology		
Support and maintenance of wide-area network, 426 desktops, 60 laptops, 288 printers and 17 servers in 12 locations	Yes	Regular maintenance trip to 19 team sites with an average of 18 computers per site

Medical		
Operation and maintenance of level-I medical services for Mission personnel and local civilian population in emergency cases	Yes	The operations and maintenance of the level-I medical services were carried out for all the visits, check-ups, medical appointments and evacuations broken down as follows:
	3 827	Visits
	388	Medical check-ups
	31	Medical appointments
	6	Medical evacuations
	1	Casualty evacuation
Operation and maintenance of HIV voluntary confidential counselling and testing facilities for all personnel	No	Counselling was not available due to lack of expertise
HIV sensitization programme for all personnel, including peer education	2	HIV/AIDS task force conferences. Also, observation of World AIDS Day
Security		
Provision of guard services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to 6 facilities in 4 locations	Yes	Guard services provided by 39 security personnel
Revised security plan	Yes	1 security plan completed
Training of all new staff on security matters	Yes	Warden training and security briefing provided to 150 MINURSO personnel

III. Resource performance

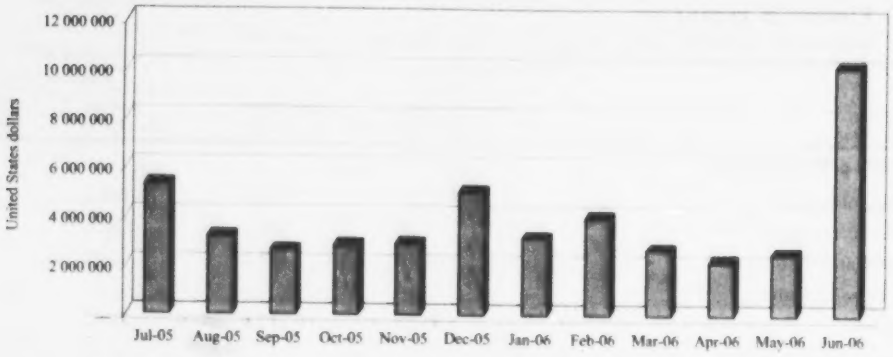
A. Financial resources

(Thousands of United States dollars. Budget year is from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006.)

Category	Apportionment (1)	Expenditure (2)	Variance Amount (3)=(1)-(2)	Variance Percentage (4)=(3)÷(1)
Military and police personnel				
Military observers	5 525.6	5 360.3	165.3	3.0
Military contingents	705.8	730.1	(24.3)	(3.4)
United Nations police	201.4	127.2	74.2	36.8
Formed police units	—	—	—	—
Subtotal	**6 432.8**	**6 217.6**	**215.2**	**3.3**
Civilian personnel				
International staff	15 370.4	14 080.7	1 289.7	8.4
National staff	2 174.6	1 726.5	448.1	20.6
United Nations Volunteers	—	—	—	—
Subtotal	**17 545.0**	**15 807.2**	**1 737.8**	**9.9**
Operational costs				
General temporary assistance	—	46.1	(46.1)	—
Government-provided personnel	108.8	35.1	73.7	67.7
Civilian electoral observers	—	—	—	—
Consultants	32.0	3.7	28.3	88.5
Official travel	419.1	428.9	(9.8)	(2.3)
Facilities and infrastructure	2 681.9	4 111.4	(1 429.5)	(53.3)
Ground transportation	2 590.8	2 471.5	119.3	4.6
Air transportation	12 432.4	9 917.6	2 514.8	20.2
Naval transportation	—	—	—	—
Communications	1 587.0	1 318.4	268.6	16.9
Information technology	664.9	875.3	(210.4)	(31.6)
Medical	274.1	236.8	37.3	13.6
Special equipment	27.6	167.8	(140.2)	(508.0)
Other supplies, services and equipment	744.0	711.0	33.0	4.4
Quick-impact projects	—	—	—	—
Subtotal	**21 562.6**	**20 323.6**	**1 239.0**	**5.7**
Gross requirements	**45 540.4**	**42 348.4**	**3 192.0**	**7.0**
Staff assessment income	2 508.0	2 191.5	316.5	12.6
Net requirements	**43 032.4**	**40 156.9**	**2 875.5**	**6.7**
Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted)[a]	3 118.1	3 761.3	(643.2)	(20.6)
Total requirements	**48 658.5**	**46 109.7**	**2 548.8**	**5.2**

[a] Actual budgeted voluntary contributions include $420,300 from the Government of Algeria, $3,131,000 from the Government of Morocco and $210,000 from the Frente Polisario.

B. Monthly expenditure pattern



7. The expenditure peak in July 2005 was due mainly to the raising of most of the obligations for commercial aircraft for the budget period as well as the obligations for aircraft petrol, oil and lubricants. The spending peak in December 2005 was attributable mainly to the raising of obligations for the purchase of ground transport vehicles, disbursements to commercial vendors for air transport services and disbursements for rations and petrol, oil and lubricants for air transport. In June 2006, the majority of disbursements took place, including those for payment of invoices for the purchase of ground transport vehicles and equipment, disbursements to commercial vendors for air transport services and disbursements for supplies and services in other areas provided by different vendors in connection with the closure of the Mission's accounts for the reporting period. In addition, the expenditure peak in June 2006 was due to the recording of voluntary contributions in kind.

C. Other income and adjustments

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	*Amount*
Interest income	166.5
Other/miscellaneous income	254.2
Voluntary contributions in cash	—
Prior-period adjustments	(3.0)
Savings on or cancellation of prior-period obligations	856.3
Total	**1 274.0**

D. Expenditure for contingent-owned equipment: major equipment and self-sustainment

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	*Expenditure*
Major equipment	
Military observers	68.2
Subtotal	**68.2**
Self-sustainment	
Facilities and infrastructure	
Catering (kitchen facilities)	—
Office equipment	—
Electrical	—
Minor engineering	—
Laundry and cleaning	5.3
Tentage	—
Accommodation	—
Miscellaneous general stores	1.4
Unique equipment	
Communications	
Communications	19.1
Medical	
Medical services	62.4
Special equipment	
Explosive ordnance disposal	—
Observation	—
Identification	—
Nuclear, biological and chemical protection	—
Field defence stores	—
Subtotal	**88.2**
Total	**156.4**

Mission factors	*Percentage*	*Effective date*	*Last review date*
Applicable to Mission area			
Extreme environmental condition factor	1.9	1998	1998
Intensified operational condition factor	1.5	1998	1998
Hostile action/forced abandonment factor	2.1	1998	1998

E. Value of non-budgeted contributions

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	*Actual value*
Status-of-forces agreement	2 320.5
Voluntary contributions in kind	—
Total	**2 320.5**

IV. Analysis of variances[1]

	Variance	
Military observers	$165.3	3.0%

8. The unutilized balance was attributable mainly to the actual average cost per rotation of $4,792 for an average of 175 military observers compared with $5,000 per rotation for 203 military observers provided for in the budget. The unutilized balance was also attributable to the higher average actual vacancy rate of 4.1 per cent compared with the rate of zero per cent applied in the budget.

	Variance	
United Nations police	$74.2	36.8%

9. The unutilized balance was owing mainly to the lower actual average strength of 6 United Nations police deployed compared with the budgeted average strength of 8 during the reporting period.

	Variance	
International staff	$1 289.7	8.4%

10. The unutilized balance was attributable mainly to an overall actual vacancy rate of 14 per cent for international staff compared with the 6 per cent vacancy rate applied in the budget.

	Variance	
National staff	$448.1	20.6%

11. The unutilized balance was attributable mainly to an overall actual vacancy rate of 18.6 per cent for national staff compared with the 2 per cent vacancy rate applied in the budget.

[1] Resource variance amounts are expressed in thousands of United States dollars. Analysis is provided for variances of at least plus or minus 5 per cent and $100,000.

	Variance	
Government-provided personnel	$73.7	67.7%

12. The budget provided for the payment of mission subsistence allowance to five personnel. However, only four personnel were deployed and only two of them were entitled to mission subsistence allowance, which was the main contributing factor to the reduced requirements.

	Variance	
Consultants	$28.3	88.5%

13. The reduced requirements were due largely to the cancellation of the budgeted information technology training consultants and the recording of the charges related to the language training consultants against the training fees, supplies and services budget item under the class of other supplies, services and equipment.

	Variance	
Facilities and infrastructure	($1 429.5)	(53.3%)

14. Additional requirements resulted mainly from a number of security enhancement projects, including the construction of perimeter walls, speed bumps and watchtowers as well as the installation of metal gates, boom barriers and external security light poles at all Mission facilities in 11 locations following a security management assessment for the Mission by the Department of Safety and Security.

15. The additional requirements also resulted from the higher average fuel cost of $0.50 per litre during the reporting period than the $0.33 per litre used in the budget and from the partial settlement of bulk fuel invoices for ground transportation under facilities and infrastructure owing to the fact that the vendor issued one invoice to cover the collection of bulk fuel under both facilities and infrastructure and ground transportation.

	Variance	
Ground transportation	$119.3	4.6%

16. As stated in paragraph 15 above, the unutilized balance was attributable mainly to the partial settlement of the bulk fuel invoice, which belongs to facilities and infrastructure, under this heading owing to the fact that the vendor issued one invoice to cover the collection of bulk fuel under both facilities and infrastructure and ground transportation.

17. The unutilized balance was partially offset by additional requirements resulting from a higher average fuel cost of $0.50 per litre during the reporting period than the $0.33 per litre used in the budget.

	Variance	
Air transportation	$2 514.8	20.2%

18. The unutilized balance resulted mainly from the lower than planned number of hours flown for helicopter operations. The cost estimate for the rental of helicopters provided for 2,940 flight hours. Owing to an early termination of the contract in December 2005, only two helicopters were repositioned in the same month to MINURSO, while the third helicopter was repositioned only in March 2006 as a result of the failure by the vendor to address maintenance problems. Therefore, the Mission's helicopters flew only 1,853 hours during the reporting period.

19. The unutilized balance was offset partially by the additional requirements for petrol, oil and lubricants owing to the increase in the per litre cost of fuel from $0.62 in July 2005 to $0.73 in June 2006 compared with the budgeted per litre cost of $0.43.

	Variance	
Communications	$268.6	16.9%

20. The unutilized balance was due mainly to the reduction of the prorated share paid by MINURSO for the rental of satellite transponders as a result of the establishment and expansion of peacekeeping missions.

	Variance	
Information technology	($210.4)	(31.6%)

21. Additional requirements were due mainly to the unbudgeted purchase of satellite imagery, LPS core software and Arc Info software for the implementation of the Geographic Information System to enable the Mission to produce accurate operational maps for planning purposes and to enhance the safety and security of staff and military observers in the presence of mines and unexploded munitions.

	Variance	
Medical	$37.3	13.6%

22. The unutilized balance was due mainly to the cancellation of the purchase of an X-ray machine, since the current Medical Unit is providing one to the Mission as contingent-owned equipment.

	Variance	
Special equipment	($140.2)	(508%)

23. The additional requirements were attributable mainly to the unbudgeted acquisition of the night-vision devices identified and recommended as an immediate operational requirement by the military operational audit of MINURSO that was conducted in June 2005.

V. Actions to be taken by the General Assembly

24. **The actions to be taken by the General Assembly in connection with the financing of MINURSO are:**

(a) To decide that Member States shall waive their respective shares in other income for the period ended 30 June 2006 amounting to $1,274,000 and their respective shares in the amount of $191,700 from the unencumbered balance of $3,192,000 for the period ended 30 June 2006, to be applied to meeting the current and future after-service health insurance liabilities of the United Nations;

(b) To decide on the treatment of the remaining unencumbered balance of $3,000,300 for the period ended 30 June 2006.

United Nations A/61/684–S/2006/1032

General Assembly
Security Council

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General Assembly
Sixty-first session
Agenda items 17 and 27

Security Council
Sixty-first year

The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan

Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

Letter dated 27 December 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the appeal of the Congress of National Minorities of Azerbaijan to the United Nations, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, Council of Europe, State Department and Congress of the United States of America, Parliament of France, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and State Duma of the Russian Federation on the so-called "constitutional referendum" of the illegal military regime in the occupied Nagorno-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex were distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under items 17 and 27 of the agenda of its sixty-first session, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Agshin **Mehdiyev**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

06-68526 (E) 040107

Annex to the letter dated 27 December 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

Communication from the Congress of National Minorities of Azerbaijan to the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the Council of Europe, the Department of State and the Congress of the United States of America, the French Parliament, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the State Duma of the Russian Federation

We, the participants of the Congress of National Minorities of Azerbaijan, express our profound indignation at and strong protest against the so-called "constitutional referendum" which took place in the Nagorno-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan on 10 December 2006. This is another defiant provocation staged by the Republic of Armenia and the military occupation regime in a territory that legally belongs to our country.

The separatists have deliberately carried out this objectionable act, which contradicts not only the Constitution of Azerbaijan but also the relevant norms and principles of international law. It is precisely for this reason that the "referendum" will have no legal effect whatever, and its results will be deemed a priori invalid. We are convinced that Armenia, which is officially recognized as an aggressor State, will once again fail in its attempt to mislead the international community, which has ample information about the monstrous policy of ethnic cleansing carried out by Armenia against the peoples of Azerbaijan. As a result, 20 per cent of the territory of Azerbaijan is today under occupation, and more than 1 million Azerbaijanis, Russians, Kurds and persons of other nationalities have become refugees. This policy of genocide has turned Armenia into a mono-ethnic State, with all the associated consequences.

For centuries, representatives of dozens of nations and peoples have lived in peace and harmony in Azerbaijan. Together with Azerbaijanis, they have shared joy and sorrow; in times of trial, they have taken up arms and given their lives to defend the freedom and territorial integrity of Azerbaijan, which is their genuine homeland. Because the national minorities are self-sufficient, they have never felt disadvantaged in any way, and today they enjoy all the rights accorded to citizens of a sovereign and democratic country, while preserving and developing their culture, language and traditions. This was made possible through the sound national policy which was consistently implemented by the national leader Heydar Aliyev, and which is being successfully continued by his successor, President Ilham Aliyev. It is he who is now the firm guarantor of respect for the rights and freedoms of all the country's citizens, irrespective of nationality or creed.

The Armenian people who were resettled in the highland part of Karabakh two centuries ago are citizens of Azerbaijan who have always enjoyed equal rights with the rest of the population.

Armenian schools were functioning in Nagorno-Karabakh, the territory had its own theatre and higher education institution, and Armenians held senior leadership positions and State posts.

However, it is clear that some forces found it advantageous to destroy the inter-ethnic peace and harmony in Azerbaijan and to sow the seeds of discord.

The Congress of National Minorities of Azerbaijan takes this opportunity to declare its full support for the efforts of the Azerbaijani leadership to resolve the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict relating to Nagorno-Karabakh on the basis of international law. President Ilham Aliyev has repeatedly declared his willingness to grant Nagorno-Karabakh the utmost autonomy, provided that the territorial integrity of Azerbaijan is preserved. However, the policy and actions of the national separatists are aimed at disrupting the peace talks, as demonstrated clearly by the so-called "constitutional referendum" that was announced.

Similar actions by those who are attempting to undermine the peace process run counter to generally accepted democratic standards and values, the rule of law and human rights.

The Congress of National Minorities of Azerbaijan calls on the United Nations, OSCE, the Council of Europe, the Department of State and the Congress of the United States of America, the French Parliament, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the State Duma of the Russian Federation, and the whole international community to condemn this illegal act, to refuse to recognize the results of the so-called referendum and to firmly support efforts to find ways of resolving this long-standing conflict in compliance with the principle of the territorial integrity of Azerbaijan, in order to achieve sustainable peace and stability in the region.

The participants of the Congress of National Minorities of Azerbaijan

The Russian Community of Azerbaijan
(*Signed*) M. Zabelin

The "Samur" National Lezgin Centre
(*Signed*) M. Muradagaev

The Religious Community of Mountain Jews
(*Signed*) S. Ikhiilov

The Religious Community of European Jews
(*Signed*) G. Zelmanovich

The Talysh Cultural Centre
(*Signed*) S. Asadullaev

The Ukrainian Community of Azerbaijan
(*Signed*) A. Zarechny

The Tatar Community of Azerbaijan
(*Signed*) E. Ilyazova

The "Sodruzhestvo" National Society
(*Signed*) T. Kerimova

The "Ronakhi" Kurdish Cultural Centre
(*Signed*) K. Gasanov

The Georgian Community of Azerbaijan
(*Signed*) R. Gvaladze

The Community of Ingilos in Azerbaijan
(*Signed*) S. Buladzheva

The "Argo" Greek Community of Azerbaijan
(*Signed*) I. Pilidzhev/Kharai

The "Vozrozhdenie" German National Cultural Association
(*Signed*) A. Safarov

The "Veten" Turkish Society
(*Signed*) I. Burkhanov

Baku, 14 December 2006

United Nations A/61/685–S/2006/1033

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Security Council

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General Assembly
Sixty-first session
Agenda item 13
The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Sixty-first year

Identical letters dated 27 December 2006 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On the instructions of my Government, I transmit to you herewith a statistical summary of Israeli violations between 15 and 21 December 2006.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the sixty-first session of the General Assembly under agenda item 13, The situation in the Middle East, and of the Security Council. An identical letter has been sent to the President of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Caroline **Ziade**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

06-68533 (E) 040107 040107

Annex to the identical letters dated 27 December 2006 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Israeli violations and activities from 15 to 21 December 2006, inclusive

Air violations

On 15 December 2006 between 0055 and 0317 an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over the sea off Tyre headed east, circled over Al-Chouf then departed over Al-Naqoura.

On the same date between 0930 and 1010 an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft circled over the village of Maroun al-Ras.

On 16 December 2006 between 1750 and 1810 an enemy Israeli warplane circled at high altitude over the sea off Al-Naqoura.

On the same date between 1955 and 2015, an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft circled at high altitude over the Al-Naqoura area.

On the same date between 1957 and 2215 an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over Aalma al-Chaab, circled over areas of the South and departed over Aalma al-Chaab.

On 17 December 2006 between 1035 and 1130 two enemy Israeli warplanes violated Lebanese airspace over Kfar Kila reaching as far as Chekaa, circled over Chekaa and Jounieh, headed towards Baalbek and departed over Kfar Kila.

On the same date between 1050 and 1054 two enemy Israeli warplanes violated Lebanese airspace over the sea off Tripoli heading east then departed over the sea off Tripoli heading towards Turkey.

On the same date between 1130 and 1530 an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over the sea off Al-Naqoura, circled over areas of the South then departed over Aalma al-Chaab.

On the same date between 1820 and 1950 an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft circled over Bayt Lif, Al-Qaouzah, Debal, Rshaf and Aaita al-Chaab, violating Lebanese airspace.

On 18 December 2006 between 0810 and 1550 an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over the sea off Tyre heading east, circled over areas of the South and then departed over Aalma al-Chaab.

On the same date between 1450 and 1700 an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over the sea off Al-Naqoura heading east, circled over the South and then departed over the occupied Shab'a farmlands.

On 19 December 2006 between 0725 and 1037 an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over the sea off Tyre, circled over areas of the South then departed over Aalma al-Chaab.

On the same date between 1020 and 1110 four enemy Israeli warplanes violated Lebanese airspace over the occupied Shab'a farmlands, circled over areas in the southern and western Bekaa then departed over Rmaich.

Israeli activities

On 15 December 2006 between 0945 and 1100 enemy Israeli machinery was heard moving in the centre of Ramta (in the occupied Shab'a farmlands).

On 17 December 2006 between 1000 and 1400 enemy Israeli vehicles were heard on the road between Bawabat Tarsus and Malykya (between Aaitaroun and Maroun al-Ras). The first vehicle inspected the electronic fence while four personnel from the second installed an electrical cable along the aforementioned stretch of road.

On 18 December 2006 between 0800 and 1200 on the Lebanese-Palestinian border (at Yaroun) five persons in a dark blue jeep and a white pick-up truck performed maintenance work on the border strip.

On the same date between 0800 and 1400 at the Avivim settlement (at Maroun al-Ras) an enemy Israeli bulldozer and excavator sought to erect a semicircular earth wall along approximately 10 metres of the road adjacent to the border strip.

On 19 December 2006 between 1030 and 1600 two bulldozers belonging to the enemy Israeli forces performed maintenance work on the road inside the occupied Palestinian territories (at Yaroun). Five civilians performed maintenance work on the inner barbed wire fence parallel to the blue line at the same location.

On the same date between 1100 and 1150 heavy armoured enemy Israeli vehicles were heard between Summaqah and Ramta (in the occupied Shab'a farmlands).

On 20 December 2006 between 0845 and 1600 inside the occupied Palestinian territories (at Yaroun) on the road adjacent to the blue line, two enemy Israeli bulldozers, two gravel spreaders and two cement mixers performed road maintenance work and concrete was laid adjacent to the barbed wire fence.

On the same date an Israeli team performed maintenance work on the strip opposite Aaita al-Chaab with a number of personnel, five pick-up trucks, a Merkava tank and two Hummer jeeps.

On the same date between 1100 and 1200 inside the occupied Palestinian territories (at Dhairah) the Israeli enemy carried out excavation works using a Poclain excavator. One of the personnel dismounted from a Hummer jeep and fired in the direction of a berm inside the above-mentioned territories.

On 21 December 2006 between 0900 and 1300 enemy Israeli forces repaired the barbed-wire fence on the blue line (at Labboune).

On the same date at 1949 enemy Israeli forces erected a surveillance camera close to border point B30 (at Ramta — Aaita al-Chaab) pointing in the direction of Lebanese territories at the exit of those two villages.

On the same date between 1030 and 1345 an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over the sea off Tyre, circled over areas of the South and then departed over Al-Naqoura.

On 20 December 2006 between 0723 and 1000 an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over the sea off Tyre, circled over areas of the South and then departed over Al-Naqoura.

Sea violations

On 17 December 2006 between 1735 and 1845 an Israeli military launch sent up a flare and fired a number of rounds from medium-calibre weapons at sea off Ras al-Naqoura. It also directed searchlights over Lebanese regional waters.

On 18 December 2006 at 1939 an Israeli military launch sent up a flare at sea off Ras al-Naqoura.

On 19 December 2006 between 1650 and 1700 an Israeli military launch fired a number of rounds from medium-calibre weapons at sea off Ras al-Naqoura.

On 20 December 2006 at 0540 an Israeli military launch sent up two flares at sea off Ras al-Naqoura.

On the same date at 1810 an Israeli military launch sent up a flare at sea off Ras al-Naqoura.

On 21 December 2006 between 0120 and 0525 an Israeli military launch sent up three flares at sea off Ras al-Naqoura.

On the same date at 0906 an Israeli military launch violated regional waters for a distance of one kilometre at a distance of approximately one mile off shore in the Al-Naqoura area, then returned towards occupied Palestinian waters.

On the same date between 1750 and 1820 an Israeli military launch sent up two flares over the sea off Ras al-Naqoura.

Field violations

On 15 December 2006 between 2045 and 2050 the enemy Israeli forces stationed in Tallat al-Rahib (at Aaita al-Chaab) directed searchlights towards Aaita al-Chaab and the woodland surrounding the hill at Tallat al-Rahib.

On 18 December 2006 between 1415 and 1425 Israeli forces strafed the area around their two outposts at Ramta and Summaqah (inside the occupied Shab'a farmlands) with medium weapons fire.

On the same date between 2015 and 2200 Israeli forces directed searchlights at night from their outposts in Tallat al-Rahib (at Aaita al-Chaab) over houses in the village and military base 632.

On 19 December 2006 between 1100 and 1245 the Israeli forces strafed the area around their position in Ruwaysat al-Alam (inside the occupied Shab'a farmlands) with medium and light weapons fire.

On 21 December 2006 at 1059 during a patrol by the Victor team of international observers for the purpose of taking the coordinates of the flags set in place by unknown persons in Yaroun on 18 December 2006, one of the Israeli soldiers aimed his weapon at the flags.